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DPRK Demands Power Facilities at Talks

SK2010014095 Seoul YONHAP in English 0124 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 19 (YONHAP) — North Korea has reportedly demanded that the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) provide it with nationwide power distribution facilities and a nuclear fuel plant.

The demand was made at the second round of the KEDO-Pyongyang high-level talks now under way in New York City by chief North Korean delegate Ambassador-at-large Ho Chong, a source close to KEDO said Thursday.

KEDO rejected the demand on the grounds that it runs counter to international commercial practices and that it goes beyond the accord reached at the first round of high-level talks held in Kuala Lumpur last June, according to the source.

In their four-day meeting held at KEDO headquarters in New York City Thursday afternoon, the two sides negotiated such issues of contention as the scope of additional facilities to be included along with the light-water reactors as well as the terms of repayment.

Also discussed in the two-hour-long meeting are compensation for accidents which may occur during construction and after completion of the nuclear power plant, North Korea's obligation to freeze its nuclear development program and to allow inspections of its nuclear facilities, KEDO's obligation to make public the process of its nuclear power plant construction project, the official added.

The meeting was attended by four officials from each side. KEDO was represented by its Executive Director Stephen Bosworth (the United States) and Vice Executive Directors Choe Tong-chin (South Korea), Itaru Umez (Japan) and an interpreter. The North Korean team included Ambassador-at-large Ho Chong, Deputy Director-general Yi Yong-ho of the Foreign Ministry's America Bureau and an interpreter.

The source said, "North Korean demands are getting more specific as time passes. But it appears that it will be quite difficult for the two sides to conclude the projected light-water reactor light-water reactor supply contract during the current, second round of high-level talks."

The two sides agreed to have their experts review the wording of the proposed contract Friday morning at KEDO headquarters and to resume the high-level negotiations Saturday morning.

In the meantime, a KEDO team is scheduled to depart via Beijing for a second visit to Sinpo, North Korea, the proposed site of nuclear power plants, for a two-week stay beginning Oct. 24 to conduct more surveys of the area.

International Global Warming Conference Opens

OW2410055395 Tokyo KYODO in English 0404 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Urawa, Japan, Oct. 24 KYODO — Representatives of local governments from around the world began a three-day conference Tuesday [24 October] in Omiya, north of Tokyo, to discuss their contributions to the fight against global warming.

The third local government leaders summit on climate change is sponsored by the government of Saitama Prefecture, the venue for the conference, and the international council for local environmental initiatives.

It is the first time the conference has been held in Asia, which is home to a number of rapidly developing economies.

Council Chairman Peter Heller told delegates in a speech at the opening of the conference that the world is experiencing record increases in temperatures and that if the trend continues, many island states could be submerged.

Heller said the world risks losing a number of civilizations, even within the lifetimes of those at the conference.

A total of 217 local governments from 55 countries, including Japan, are attending.

The delegates will also discuss how local governments can contribute to preventing global warming through the achievement of targeted reductions in greenhouse gases cited in the framework convention on climate change signed by 153 countries at the 1992 U.N.-sponsored Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Scientists suspect the temperature rises Heller referred to are due to increasing concentrations of "greenhouse gases," including those released in the burning of fossil fuels, which are trapping heat near the earth's surface.

On Thursday, the final day of the conference, the delegates are scheduled to adopt a "Saitama declaration" calling on local governments to actively contribute to preventing climate change.

Moves to prevent global warming are sometimes regarded as an inevitable impediment to economic growth in Asia, but since half the world's population lives in the region, a policy which ignores the region with its high dependence on fossil fuels is also inconceivable, organizers said.

For that reason alone, the conference is significant for its participation by some 60 local governments from the Asian region, they said.

Japan

Coalition Heads Agree on Murayama-Ota Meeting

OW2410095895 Tokyo KYODO in English 0948 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — The heads of the three governing coalition parties agreed Tuesday [24 October] on the need for Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama to meet Okinawa Gov. Masahide Ota as early as possible to break an impasse over the continued rental of land to U.S. Forces in Okinawa.

The three — Murayama of the Social Democratic Party, International Trade and Industry Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of the Liberal Democratic Party, and Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura of New Party Sakigake — reached the accord in a meeting at the premier's official residence.

The meeting was also attended by the cabinet ministers involved — Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, Defense Agency chief Seishiro Eto and Masaaki Takagi, chief of the Hokkaido and Okinawa Development Agencies.

"We shared the view that it's better for the prime minister to meet the governor as quickly as possible," Kono told reporters after emerging from the hourlong powwow.

Since the alleged rape of a 12-year-old schoolgirl by three U.S. servicemen in Okinawa in early September, Ota has refused the central government's request that he sign documents to compel Okinawa residents to allow renewal of leases on land used by U.S. Forces on the southwestern Japanese island.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koken Nosaka will "chart the course" for an early meeting between Murayama and Ota, the foreign minister said.

The accord came on the heels of a meeting between Murayama and top policy-makers of the three coalition parties earlier Tuesday in which they agreed that the government and the coalition should work together to seek a breakthrough in the deadlock.

In accordance with the law on land expropriation for U.S. Forces, the central government is preparing to have some 2,900 Okinawan landowners agree to the continued leasing of their land before the expiration of the current arrangements in March 1996 and May 1997.

But the landowners, who possess some 387,000 square meters of land within the boundaries of 13 U.S. forces' facilities, have refused to renew the leases.

If landowners and municipal leaders refuse to sign the necessary documents to lease the land, Japanese law requires the governor to sign them. If the governor also refuses, the prime minister can file a suit demanding that the governor carry out his duties.

Ota has already signaled his readiness to come to Tokyo for talks with Murayama on the issue of the compulsory leasing, Nosaka, the top government spokesman, told a news conference.

Kono told reporters that the coalition heads and ministers concerned have also agreed to pay as much attention to the feeling of Okinawans as possible in formulating proposals for a possible reduction of the U.S. Military presence in the prefecture.

Meanwhile, Kono and U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale agreed in principle Tuesday morning to establish a new bilateral mechanism to discuss consolidation and realignment of U.S. Forces in Okinawa.

In his meeting with Mondale, Kono pointed out that it is important to seek early implementation of the accord to consolidate and realign 26 U.S. military facilities in the prefecture, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Some 75 percent of all the U.S. military facilities in Japan are located in Okinawa, which accounts for only 0.6 percent of the nation's land area.

The rape incident sparked a furor among Okinawa residents over the U.S. Military presence on the island.

In addition to the 23 items already agreed upon with the United States, Japan will advance new proposals for scaling down the size of the U.S. presence in Okinawa when U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry visits Japan next week.

Perry said Sunday Washington will consider any Japanese Government proposals for reducing the U.S. presence in Okinawa.

Kono told Mondale that in the long run, it is necessary to reduce the number of U.S. military facilities in Okinawa in line with Okinawa people' hopes, in a way that will not harm the objectives of Japan-U.S. security arrangements, the official said.

Japan hopes to discuss with Washington the details of the suggested mechanism and agree on its establishment by the time U.S. President Bill Clinton visits Japan in November, the official said.

Article on Tokyo's Trying To Settle Base Issue

OW2310235195 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 22 Oct 95 Morning Edition p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] Following the Okinawan rally on 21 October, the government and the ruling parties plan to do all they can to promptly settle the issue of

Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota's refusal to sign in proxy on the compulsory use of land for U.S. military bases on Okinawa, and the issue of improving the application of the Status of Forces Agreement [SOFA]. In addition to working out a draft proposal for breaking the deadlocked proxy- signing issue by the end of the month, the government and the ruling parties plan to hold the fourth meeting of the special Japanese-U.S. committee of experts who are studying the issue of improving SOFA application in order to spell out concrete steps on the issue of Japanese authorities taking custody of suspects who are U.S. servicemen prior to their indictment. By laying out the course for settling the two issues before U.S. President Bill Clinton's visit in mid-November, the government and the ruling parties hope to prevent the issues from shaking the Japanese-U.S. security arrangement as much as possible.

Since the ruling parties have been in disarray over such issues as the retrenchment and consolidation of U.S. military bases on Okinawa, they will inevitably face rough sailing over working out their differences. In particular, should the government and ruling parties fail to make proper arrangements, the situation will inevitably develop to a point where the very foundations of the current administration will be shaken, and Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama is likely to be pressed to make a difficult decision.

The government and the ruling parties have judged that "the Okinawan people's emotional uprising has passed a big turning point," with the closing of the mass rally, which was considered the high point of the protest movement against the raping of a young Okinawan schoolgirl by U.S. servicemen. Before the mass rally, concerns have been raised saying, "Regardless of what kind of measures we come up with, our action would be smoldered by strong protests and calls for the government to take more drastic action" (as stated by a senior Liberal Democratic Party official). Now that the mass rally is over, the government and the ruling parties all-the-more plan to accelerate their efforts toward working out concrete measures.

Regarding the issue of Ota's refusing to sign the land lease agreement, the government and the ruling parties insist on "settling the issue through dialogue." In addition to Seishiro Eto, director general of the Defense Agency, Chief Cabinet Secretary Koken Nosaka also plans to visit Okinawa late this month to convey the government's determination to endorse plans for retrenchment and consolidation of U.S. military bases on Okinawa and promote development projects for Okinawa. "Through due process and by making sincere efforts" (as stated by a close aide to the prime minister), the government and the ruling parties hope to gain the Okinawan people's understanding on the process of land expropriation for use by U.S. military bases on Okinawa.

Kono, Mondale 'Basically' Agree on Base Forum

OW2410031795 Tokyo KYODO in English
0258 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Foreign Minister Yohei Kono and U.S. Ambassador Walter Mondale basically agreed Tuesday [24 October] to establish a new bilateral mechanism to discuss consolidation and realignment of U.S. Forces stationed in Okinawa in addition to the already agreed 26 points, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Kono made the proposal to the U.S. ambassador. Mondale replied that he will convey Kono's proposal to Washington but that he basically agrees with the idea, according to the official.

During an hour-long meeting at the Foreign Ministry, Kono said it is important to seek early implementation of the agreement to consolidate and realign 26 U.S. military facilities in Okinawa prefecture, where some 75 percent of the U.S. bases in Japan are concentrated.

But he said that in the long run, it is necessary to reduce the number of U.S. military facilities in Okinawa, as Okinawans are hoping for, in a way that will not harm the goal of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty.

Japan hopes to discuss with Washington the details of the suggested mechanism, and agree on its establishment by the time U.S. President Bill Clinton visits Japan in November, the Foreign Ministry official said.

The forum is to be set up outside of the existing Japan-U.S. joint committee and will be a high-level forum, he said.

At the outset of the talks, Kono told Mondale that Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama had asked him to tell the U.S. ambassador that the Murayama cabinet's stance to maintain the Japan-U.S. security alliance remains unchanged.

Referring to a rally held last Saturday in Okinawa in which tens of thousands of people gathered to protest the rape of an elementary schoolgirl, for which three U.S. servicemen have been indicted, and calling for a cut in U.S. bases there, Kono said such feelings are shared by many Japanese and that he wanted to discuss ways to link such public sentiment with the government's position.

He also told Mondale that the upcoming visit to Japan by U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry comes at an "important juncture" and that it is a ministerial visit ahead of the presidential trip.

Perry is scheduled to visit Japan later this month to hold talks with Kono and Defense Agency Chief Seishiro Eto.

Mondale told reporters after his meeting with Kono that he clarified some "confusions" surrounding Perry's remarks Sunday that were taken as meaning the U.S. will consider any calls by Japan to reduce the number of U.S. troops in Okinawa.

"The basic U.S. Government policy is outlined in the East Asian Security Review which was issued in February. It does not call for the Forces' reduction," he said, adding that Perry's statement was "not intended to call for the reduction of forces."

Perry said on the NBC television program Sunday that the U.S. will "consider any proposals that the Japanese Government makes in terms of adjusting the forces there."

Turning to the ongoing negotiations on the criminal jurisdiction procedures under the Status of Forces Agreement, Kono and Mondale agreed that the two sides should make every efforts to reach an early conclusion, possibly by the time Perry visits Japan, the official said.

The rape in Okinawa in September has fueled calls for the U.S. military presence in Okinawa to be reduced and for a revision of the Status of Forces Agreement.

Kono Reassures Mondale on Security Alliance

OW2410015895 Tokyo KYODO in English
0049 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Foreign Minister Yohei Kono reassured U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale on Tuesday [24 Ocotober] morning that the Japanese Government's stance to maintain the security alliance with the United States is unchanged.

In a meeting at the Foreign Ministry, Kono told Mondale that Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama had asked him earlier in the morning to convey Japan's position to the U.S. ambassador.

Referring to a rally held last Saturday in Okinawa in which tens of thousands of people gathered to protest the rape of an elementary schoolgirl, for which three U.S. servicemen have been indicted, Kono said such Okinawans' feelings are shared by many Japanese.

He told Mondale that he wants to discuss with the ambassador ways to link such public sentiment with the government's position to maintain the Japan-U.S. security alliance.

Also at the outset of the talks, Kono told Mondale he wants to discuss the agenda for the upcoming visit to Japan by U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry, describing the visit as an important ministerial visit ahead of U.S. President Bill Clinton's Japan trip in November.

Perry is to visit Japan later this month to hold talks with Kono and Defense Agency Chief Seishiro Eto.

The rape in Okinawa in September has fueled calls for the U.S. military presence in Okinawa to be reduced and for a revision of the agreement concerning the status of U.S. military personnel in Japan.

Source Lists Negotiable Facilities in Base Talks

OW2410044795 Tokyo KYODO in English
0430 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Japan will take up several U.S. Forces facilities in Okinawa Prefecture for the first time in negotiations with the United States to try and reduce the U.S. military presence on the islands, government sources said Tuesday [24 October].

The government has chosen seven facilities — Okuma Rest Center, Kadena Ammunition Storage, Camp Zukeran, Futemma Air Base, Awase Communication Site, Makiminato Service Area and Iejima Auxiliary Airfield — as negotiable ones, the sources said.

The government will then select several of these facilities and start new negotiations on them with the U.S., they said.

The two countries have already agreed to 23 separate proposals to consolidate the U.S. military facilities in Okinawa.

However, the Japanese Government decided to make new proposals in order to break through the deadlocked situation surrounding U.S. bases in Okinawa, the sources said.

Okinawa Gov. Masahide Ota has refused to sign documents necessary for the continued use of land by the U.S. Forces because of unwilling landowners following the rape of an elementary schoolgirl, for which three U.S. servicemen have been indicted.

Some 75 percent of all the U.S. military facilities in Japan are located in Okinawa, which accounts for only 0.6 percent of the nation's land area.

"By taking seriously U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry's remarks that the U.S. would look at any Japanese Government proposals, we will consider making new requests," Defense Agency Chief Seishiro Eto told a press conference.

Eto suggested he would make new requests in regard to the scaling down of U.S. bases in Okinawa when he holds talks with Perry in a meeting scheduled in Tokyo on Nov. 1.

Perry told NBC Television Sunday, "we will consider any proposals that the Japanese Government makes in terms of adjusting the forces there."

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koken Nosaka said there is a possibility of reducing the number of U.S. military personnel stationed in Okinawa.

"It is possible to consolidate or cut down the personnel without reducing the strength of the Armed Forces," the top government spokesman told a press conference.

Nosaka Hails New Forum for Okinawa Bases Talks

OW2410082495 Tokyo KYODO in English
0749 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Chief Cabinet Secretary Koken Nosaka on Tuesday [24 October] welcomed a Japan-U.S. agreement to launch a fresh bilateral mechanism to discuss the scaling down of the U.S. military presence in Okinawa.

"It's a welcome idea in the sense that it will bring the two sides to the negotiating table on the matter," the top government spokesman told a news conference.

While not dismissing the possibility of advancing new proposals for consolidating U.S. facilities in the southwestern Japanese prefecture, Nosaka said bilateral talks for the scaling down of the U.S. presence will proceed more effectively under the rubric of the new body.

He also said Okinawa Gov. Masahide Ota, who has refused to sign documents necessary for the continued use of land by U.S. Forces, has relayed his readiness to come to Tokyo for talks with Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama.

The date of the prefectural governor's Tokyo visit will be worked out "in a day or two," Nosaka said.

Murayama on Possible Proxy Signing on U.S. Bases

OW2410142695 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese 23 Oct 95 Morning Edition p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] In his informal meeting with Japanese reporters in New York [on 21 October U.S. time], Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama indicated his determination to solve the compulsory land lease problem related to U.S. military bases on Okinawa. His action stems from a sense of growing crisis prevailing in Tokyo: should the government mishandle the land lease problem, which could jolt the basis of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, it would impact the maintenance of the administration. Prior to the Japan-U.S. summit set for 20 November, the prime minister wants to demonstrate "the nation's sincerity" to settle the dispute through his talks with Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota. If the talks cannot bring about Ota's understanding, it is probable that Murayama will then consider undertaking proxy signing.

Regarding Okinawa, Murayama and his aides have several scenarios in mind: 1) Chief Cabinet Secretary Koken Nosaka will be sent to this southernmost prefecture after October to convey the prime minister's message of determination to settle the dispute; 2) the prime minister will meet with the Okinawa governor in early November to engage in full discussions on the compulsory land lease contracts for U.S. military use; and 3) efforts will be made to reach an agreement at the November Japan-U.S. summit that "the bases will be retrenched through reorganization and consolidation." These are the main points of their Okinawa plans. Still, officials close to Murayama think that it is unlikely that Ota will change his decision even after these steps are taken.

Given this situation, Murayama intends to feel out the Okinawan government's reaction by holding more talks with Ota in late November after the summit. Then, he will finally decide whether to undertake proxy signing on behalf of the governor. Wataru Kubo, Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] secretary general, told a 22 October news conference that proxy signing by the prime minister should be considered to "settle the dispute through negotiations." His statement is likely aimed at helping Murayama make a decision.

However, it is uncertain if the prime minister can hammer out an agreement concerning the compulsory land lease contracts in the way he wishes. That is because not only tough going is expected in the Japan-U.S. negotiations over reorganization, consolidation and retrenchment of the U.S. bases; but also some members of the SDPJ, Murayama's own party, insist that the government must take a step toward revising the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement to learn a lesson from the land dispute.

In addition, Murayama may face more difficulties as divided opinions in the SDPJ and New Party Sakigake [Harbinger] now cloud the formation of a new party — the project Murayama wants to succeed with Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura (Sakigake leader) as head. Since the new party formation may reach a big turning point in November, it is likely that the prime minister, who will return from New York on 23 October, will be forced to manage an extremely challenging political situation with two pending issues, "Okinawa" and "the new party."

Governor Ota Comments on Perry's Base Remarks

OW2310232495 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 23 Oct 95 Evening Edition p 1

[FBIS Translated Text] Touching on U.S. Defense Secretary Perry's remarks showing his intention to consider any proposals the Japanese Government will make for a possible reduction and consolidation of military bases on Okinawa, Governor Masahide Ota, at a meeting with reporters on 23 October, said: "In response to petitions filed by Okinawa, the U.S. Government has so far viewed the base issue in Okinawa as a domestic matter of Japan." He added, "If the government fails to study the issue seriously from now on, it will not produce a positive result, even for the United States," thus strongly criticizing both the Japanese and the U.S. Governments for having been negative about the issues facing Okinawa.

Referring to Assistant Secretary of Defense Nye's remarks saying, "If a request is made by Japan, we feel no reluctance to relocate bases," the governor pointed out the weak-kneed attitude of the Japanese Government, which has been reluctant in calling for a reduction of military bases. Governor Ota noted: "The base issue will not be settled easily unless a proper action can convince Okinawa residents," thus calling for the two governments' actions.

Asked about Prime Minister Murayama's hopes to hold a meeting with him before U.S. President Clinton's visit to Japan, the governor said, "I have not been officially informed of it yet," and noted: "I am willing to meet him if he wants to hear our opinions in preparation for talks with the U.S. Government." However, asked about the details of his meeting with Murayama, the governor said that it will be "completely different from the issue regarding administrative procedures forcing land owners to renew the lease of lands for the use of U.S. military forces," thus indicating a stand of seeking to settle the base issues through the meeting.

On the government's plan to persuade the governor to take administrative procedures for the renewal of land leases, Governor Ota said: "I think it is irrelevant to the matter. Okinawa people will not be convinced without the government's clear explanation about why military bases are concentrated in a discriminatory fashion on Okinawa." In this way, the governor stressed that his refusal to sign documents regarding land leases is supported by Okinawan people.

As for last week's mass rally denouncing the recent rape case involving U.S. servicemen, the governor placed high value on the mass gathering, saying: "Okinawan people were united into one, and it was a great postwar event in Okinawa," and he made clear that he will take a firm attitude in settling base issues, including the issue regarding the renewal of land leases.

Okinawa Mayors Comment on Perry's Remarks

OW2410144095 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 23 Oct 95 Evening Edition p 7

[Passages within slantlines published in boldface; first paragraph is newspaper's introduction]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Many members of groups advocating peace and democracy and other local Okinawan organizations have reacted coolly to U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry's remarks in which he indicated that the United States plans to take a flexible stance toward issues related to U.S. military bases on Okinawa. While assessing that "Okinawa's public opinion represented by 85,000 participants who gathered at the Okinawan mass rally has helped pull out Perry's remarks," some groups say: "The Japanese Government itself has shown no indication of taking action." Still others say: "No concrete plans have been proposed." In this way, local groups and organizations have indicated that they want to watch carefully how things develop.

Make-Shift Solutions Will Not Work

[Naha Mayor Kosei Oyadomari] I truly sense the feeling that the Okinawan people's anger expressed at the mass rally on 21 October is shaking the world. It is becoming widely acknowledged that Okinawa's demands are minimal. Although the United States continues to maintain its traditional stance that the "problem of local military bases is Japan's problem," the ball has been placed in the Japanese side's court. We must not lose this opportunity to see how the Japanese Government handles the situation. The Okinawan people will not be convinced by make-shift solutions.

The U.S. Defense Secretary Should Inspect Okinawa and Make Decisions

[Okinawa City Mayor Shusei Arakawa] The mounting of Okinawa's public opinion, which was highlighted in the mass rally, has pulled out the the defense secretary's remarks. For a review to be made of U.S. military bases on Okinawa, it is necessary for the secretary to make a detailed inspection of the actual situation on Okinawa where crime and accidents repeatedly occur. Therefore, it is desired that he visit Okinawa. The Japanese Government should take seriously the secretary's remarks and proceed with concrete plans for the retrenchment and realignment of military bases and a review of the Status of Forces Agreement.

A Flaming Rally Has Moved the United States

[Yomitan Mayor Tokushin Yamauchi] A flaming rally by the Okinawan people has probably turned into a force that moved the U.S. Government. We can credit Defense Secretary Perry's remarks as indicating the U.S. Government has stepped further into solving the problem than has the Japanese Government. There must be strong concerns that things can turn for the worst by ignoring and holding back the opinion of the Okinawan people. It is necessary to persist with our movement toward concrete solutions to the problems for the future of our children and grandchildren.

Japanese Government Intends To Permanently Keep Military Bases

[Ginowan Mayor Seiken Tobaru] It has become clear that it is the Japanese Government that wants to permanently keep military bases on Okinawa. Why does the government have to reject an offer to accept relocation of military bases by the governor of Hawaii and persist on permanently keeping military bases on Okinawa? We have to direct our struggle toward the Japanese Government.

We Would Like To See Our Government Show More Sincerity

[Chatan Mayor Choichi Hentona] Although the U.S. defense secretary has reportedly indicated a forward-looking stance, the Japanese Government has so far neglected to take action that would sufficiently convince the Okinawan people. The attitude of the Japanese Government is being tested now that it has to respond to the U.S. defense secretary's remarks. We would like to see whether the government can present the United States with proposals that can convince the Okinawan people. We would like to see the government show its sincerity by presenting concrete plans for the retrenchment and consolidation of military bases. [passage omitted]

Osaka Assembly Seeks Review of U.S. Forces Pact

OW2310124795 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Osaka, Oct. 23 KYODO — The Suita Municipal Assembly in Osaka Prefecture on Monday [23 October] unanimously adopted a resolution calling for a review of the U.S.-Japan Status of Forces Agreement in the wake of the rape of an Okinawan girl allegedly by three American servicemen.

The resolution calls for such a review "to protect the lives and property of Japanese people from crimes committed by U.S. soldiers and to establish a more equitable Japan-U.S. relationship."

Assembly members said copies of the resolution will be sent to Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, Foreign Minister Yohei Kono and Justice Minister Hiroshi Miyazawa.

Officials Discuss Military Base Problem

OW2310153995 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0000 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 22 October in its regular "Sunday Discussion" program covers a live panel discussion on U.S. military bases on Okinawa.

Participating in the one-hour discussion, moderated by NHK commentator Takashi Yamamoto, are Chief Cabinet Secretary Koken Nosaka, Seishiro Eto, director general of the Defense Agency; Terumasa Nakanishi, a Kyoto University professor and expert on Japanese-U.S. relations; Yoshikazu Tamaki, chairman of the action committee for the mass rally held in Okinawa 21 October; and Tokushin Yamauchi, mayor of Yomitan Village. The last two panelists appear on the program via remote hookup with the NHK studio in Okinawa.

Asked to comment on the Okinawan mass rally, Nosaka explains that it shows the Okinawan people's anger erupting as a result of the government's failure to deal appropriately with Okinawa's military-base related issues in the 23 years since Okinawa's reversion to Japan in 1972. On the same subject, Eto indicates he shares Nosaka's view, saying: "I feel that through the rally, the Okinawan people have once again put before the entire Japanese public the question of how military bases ought to be."

Regarding the massive turnout at the Okinawan rally, Tamaki explains that one reason for it was the atrocity of the rape incident, which triggered the Okinawan people's anger, and another was the fact that 75 percent of all U.S. military bases in Japan are concentrated in Okinawa. Yamauchi says the mass rally shows that the Okinawan people, who have been forced to bear an intolerable burden, have finally become enraged, and warns: "Looking at yesterday's rally, I feel that unless the Japanese and U.S. Governments take the situation seriously and respond appropriately, the anger could head into a new direction, leading to new developments." Nosaka agrees that the government must handle the situation very carefully.

Asked how they feel about the recent resignation of Noboru Hoshuyama, former director general of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency [DFAA], Tamaki and Yamauchi say they, as well as the Okinawan people, feel it is unbelievable that anyone with Hoshuyama's views, marked by little understanding of the situation of the Okinawan people, could have served in the top post of the DFAA. Eto expresses his apology, noting that Hoshuyama acted contrary to government policy at such a crucial time, when the government has been trying so hard to settle the situation by gaining the Okinawan people's understanding. Nakanishi points out that the problem of U.S. military bases on Okinawa has been ignored, even though the Japanese and U.S. Governments have talked about global partnership and other larger issues. He notes a gap in understanding of the problem between Okinawan people and the Japanese Government and people living in parts of the country other than Okinawa.

Regarding the issue of Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota's refusing to act as proxy in signing extended leases of land for U.S. use, Nosaka says there is no change in the government's intention to resolve the issue through dialogue, pointing out: "Hoshuyama's remarks about resorting to legal procedures ran contrary to the government's position."

Yamamoto then briefly explains the process involved in land expropriation in case land owners refuse to lease their land and heads of municipalities and the governor refuse to carry out their administrative duties. In this regard, Nosaka reiterates that Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama has no intention of starting legal procedures against Ota, and the government, at the moment, is only thinking of resolving the issue through dialogue. Nakanishi gives his view on the issue. Eto explains Ota's action, saying: "I feel the governor's refusing to sign was one way he hopes to brush away the possibility of U.S. military bases on Okinawa becoming permanently fixed and strengthened." Yamauchi says he fully supports Ota's action, explaining that the existence of U.S. military bases on Okinawa inhibits development. Tamaki stresses that the government has to come up with a solution. Eto explains the government is currently tackling the issue together with the U.S. Government, hoping that "the Okinawan people's opinion, the governor's views, and a solution to the problem will be reflected in the joint statement to be issued after the summit in Osaka in November between Murayama and U.S. President Bill Clinton."

Asked if the problem of U.S. military bases on Okinawa will be taken up during the summit meeting, Nosaka says it will likely be taken up, since the current situation in Okinawa has developed to such proportions and President Clinton has apologized for the rape incident that triggered the uproar in Okinawa.

Asked if the Japanese Government plans to request the U.S. Government's cooperation in scaling down U.S. military bases when U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry visits Japan on 30 October, Eto says: "We feel this issue must naturally be taken up." He then points out that the Japanese Government will ask the U.S. Government for further cooperation after the 26 pending issues, including relocating the U.S. Marine Corps' live-fire exercises across Prefectural Highway 104 to mainland sites, have been settled.

Tamaki points out if the Japanese-U.S. security alliance is so important, the burden of U.S. military bases should be spread out equally among other prefectures. He asks whether the government and other prefectures are prepared to agree to this proposal. In response, Eto says the government has already allocated funds to conduct feasibility studies on relocation plans; and, based on the results of the studies, he says: "I feel we have to try by all means to gain the cooperation of local authorities and the people and carry out the plans." Nosaka stresses that Okinawan people do not have to worry about U.S. military bases being permanently fixed and strengthened and that the government must try to avoid that.

Regarding the government's plan to make further efforts at scaling down U.S. military bases on Okinawa after the 26 pending issues are settled, Yamauchi stresses that Okinawan people are more interested in "concrete, visible results" than in the "government's empty words." Nosaka emphasizes that the Murayama administration will proceed with further plans to scale down U.S. military bases while working on the pending issues.

Nakanishi explains the contradicton between the idea of scaling down military bases and the Japanese-U.S. security alliance. He notes that the situation in the future is unpredictable as regards the U.S. military presence, since only a few years ago the United States was considering further reduction in its presence in the Asia-Pacific region; but it decided only this year that there will be no further reduction over the next 10 years. He says that in this sense, the current U.S. stance could change again in a few years, depending on circumstances. He stresses that the issue of scaling down bases could affect the very foundation of the security alliance, under which Japan must provide military bases to the United States and comes under the latter's protection in return.

Eto, as head of the Defense Agency, explains his position: "The Cold-War structure has collapsed, but as a result, the situation has become unstable in Northeast Asia." He adds: "The U.S. military presence in Northeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region is therefore essential, and the Japanese-U.S. security arrangement must be maintained."

Regarding review of the Status of Forces Agreement [SOFA], Nosaka says discussions are being conducted on improving ways of applying Article 17, Section 5-C of the SOFA, but points out: "It is uncertain how the issue will develop in the future." He adds: "I feel there may be a revision."

Yamauchi then raises an argument countering Nosaka and Eto's argument that the Japanese-U.S. security arrangement is necessary because of instability in Northeast Asia. He says the Japanese Government needs to change its traditional way of thinking, which is a relic of the Cold War era, and stresses: "Only after the SOFA and security arrangement have been reviewed so that a relationship based on equality is established between Japan and the United States will there be a bright future for Japan in Asia in the 21st century. Okinawa's military-base issues will be resolved if efforts are made based on such a viewpoint."

Nosaka reiterates the government's traditional stance that at present, the security arrangement is essential and Japan has to provide necessary military bases in line with the it. He points out that the number of military personnel can be reduced without sacrificing military strength, since modern weapons have become very efficient; therefore, the Okinawan people's desire to scale down military bases can be fulfilled. He adds: "Prime Minister Murayama will likely ask the United States to take up the matter at the summit, since there is such a big uproar in Okinawa that the very foundations of the security arrangement could be considerably affected."

Tamaki points out that even though the world situation has changed greatly with the collapse of the Cold War structure, the Okinawan people have never received their share of peace dividends. He reiterates Okinawa's concern over U.S. bases being permanently fixed if 100,000 U.S. troops indeed have to be maintained in the Asia-Pacific region, as the United States asserts.

Regarding the future of the Japanese-U.S. security arrangement, Nakanishi points out that public opinion in both countries will shape the security arrangement in the future.

Nosaka reiterates that the Okinawan people will not be satisfied with ambiguous promises and stresses that the government must "come up with specific names [of sites to be subject to scale-down plans] to convince the Okinawan people" that military bases on Okinawa will not be permanently fixed and strengthened.

Eto explains that his initial plan to visit Okinawa on 24-25 October to meet Ota has been canceled due to the needs of the ongoing Diet session and will be rescheduled. He then asks the Okinawan officials to think of the security arrangement in terms of its effect not only on Okinawa but also on the entire Japanese nation and the international community, saying: "Japan's security cannot be ensured by Japan's capability alone. This is where the security arrangement comes in; and in case Japan should come under attack, the United States will step in to help."

In closing, Yamamoto asks the Okinawan officials to make one last request to the Japanese Government. Yamauchi urges that military bases on Okinawa be spread out evenly throughout the country, so that the burden of military bases can be shared equally by the entire nation, if the security arrangement is really necessary. Tamaki points out that the Japanese Government has failed to indicate clearly how it intends to deal with the problem and points out that the massive turnout at the Okinawa rally indicates that the Okinawan people certainly want the government to take drastic action. In response, Nosaka says: "We will pour our utmost efforts into negotiations with the U.S. Government and do all we can to satisfy the Okinawan people." Eto stresses that with the Okinawan mass rally, the problem of U.S. military bases on Okinawa has entered a new phase, and the government will keep this in mind in tackling the problem.

Asked how soon the government intends to settle the situation, Nosaka says he hopes before President Clinton visits Japan to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in November. He also notes that Murayama may meet Ota before the Japanese-U.S. summit.

U.S. Bases Cut Considered for Joint Statement

OW2010102195 Tokyo KYODO in English
0926 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO — Japan is negotiating with the United States over whether to mention a resolve to cut the U.S. military presence in Okinawa in a joint statement on the bilateral security treaty to be issued next month, government sources said Friday [20 October].

Tokyo believes the inclusion of a reference to such a resolve on the part of both governments could help win the cooperation of the Okinawa prefectural government in maintaining the bases, the sources said.

The move came in the wake of a refusal by Okinawa Gov. Masahide Ota to sign documents needed to force the continued leasing of land owned by Okinawans to the U.S. military following a surge of public anger over the rape of an Okinawan schoolgirl, allegedly by three U.S. servicemen.

In light of a U.S. policy of maintaining a military presence in East Asia, the Foreign Ministry has long been cautious about authoring documents that could lead to a cut in U.S. bases in Okinawa.

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama and U.S. President Bill Clinton are slated to issue the joint statement when Clinton visits Japan next month for a summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

Japan and the U.S. have agreed on a consolidation of U.S. bases in Okinawa, but this has yet to be carried out.

With the aim of alleviating U.S. concerns that a reduction in U.S. bases in Okinawa could limit its military effectiveness in East Asia, Japan plans to have the joint statement stress the need to host U.S. bases in Okinawa both for fulfilling the purpose of the Security Treaty and to maintain the U.S. military presence itself, the sources said.

Editorial on Hoshuyama Resignation, Base Issue

OW2310231095 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese 20 Oct 95 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial: "Political Responsibility Questioned in Director General's Resignation"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Noboru Hoshuyama, director general of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency [DFAA], has resigned.

The director general was replaced because he was taken to task for critical remarks about Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, who had stated his intention of solving the issue of enforced land-lease extensions for U.S. military facilities on Okinawa — rejected by Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota — through negotiations, but avoiding invoking legal authority.

The DFAA director general is the highest-ranked official responsible for administering facilities used by the U.S. Forces Japan [USFJ], and reports directly to the director general of the Defense Agency [DA]. Of all the former DFAA director generals, Hoshuyama, a career civil servant at the DA, is known for his frankness. A year ago, he said that "Okinawan people should learn to live with [kyosei] and aim at coprosperity [kyozon] with military bases." His remarks, bitterly resented by the local people, are still vividly recalled.

Hoshuyama's most recent remarks may be what he really thought as a bureaucrat, dreading the present situation that could ultimately rock the foundation of the bilateral Japan-U.S. security arrangements through Governor Ota's refusal to put his signature on forced land-lease extension documents. His comment that Prime Minister Murayama is stupid [atama ga warui] is an indication of his irritation at what he regards as the prime minister's dawdling over a critical national issue.

Yet, Hoshuyama is wrong in his argument.

Hoshuyama maintains that the prime minister should go through the lease-renewal procedures by putting his own signature on the order under the provisions of the Local Autonomy Law if the governor of Okinawa should hold out. "Otherwise, the prestige of a nation guided by law will be called into question," he added.

Let us take this point into consideration: Governor Ota was compelled to refuse to sign concerned documents because, triggered by the alleged rape of a schoolgirl by U.S. servicemen, public discontent and indignation on Okinawa has burst forth, directed at the heavy concentration of U.S. military bases on the island for nearly a quarter-century after its reversion to the fatherland.

Their accusing fingers also point to the successive central administrations and bureaucrats who have supported them. All have left the situation unattended for too long. Beyond that, the Japanese and U.S. Governments are about to reaffirm the importance of their mutual security arrangement as the cornerstone of regional security in the post-Cold War era. Okinawa is the largest stronghold in that arrangement.

A law-governed country cannot stand without broad popular support for that law and its enforcement. If the prime minister should agree to take the hard-line measure of signing the concerned documents, the current difficult situation could be overcome and the situation confronting the Okinawan people could be left as it is. And then the security alliance could function effectively in the future. Is this what Hoshuyama has in his mind?

Hoshuyama also stated that "reasonable measures should be taken to deal with the situation." To be sure, there is no denying that mutual cooperation between Japan and the United States is of great significance to bilateral relations and regional stability. Improving circumstances connected with military bases is a difficult task that takes time and political influence. However, to regard the anger of Okinawa Prefectural residents as nothing more than a temporary, emotional outburst is tantamount to failure in understanding the essence of the problem.

Hoshuyama may be among those who know better than others that the present mutual security arrangement is a Pandora's box. Numerous contradictions exist in the present security arrangement between what the treaty provides on the one hand, and actual reality on the other, not to mention the following issues: The projection of the operational sphere of Japan-based U.S. troops as far as the Middle East and the problems inherent in the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement.

Hoshuyama apparently feared opening that Pandora's box and applied the bureaucratic mindset of maintaining the status quo for the sake of policy continuity. He was not prepared to help establish security relations with the United States that would be more healthy and more effective while reexamining those points at issue thoroughly.

In the final analysis, the crisis that has emerged in Hoshuyama's absence is a lack of political action. Apparently, it is the responsibility of Prime Minister Murayama and the Diet to map out the plan for the future security arrangements. The waters were roiled because everything has been left to the hands of bureaucrats.

Such problems cannot be resolved simply by replacing Hoshuyama. The prime minister himself has said that the fate of the present administration hinges on settling the issue. It is not too late to take action now. In paving the way for the Japan-U.S. summit talks scheduled for November, the government must not delay in working out the best security arrangement while taking the wishes of the people of Okinawa into sincere consideration.

Kodak 'Will Not Tolerate' Closed Film Market

OW2010102495 Tokyo KYODO in English
0929 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO — U.S. photo film giant Eastman Kodak Co. will not tolerate that the important market of Japan is closed by Japan's Fuji Photo Film Co. and remains that company's own profit sanctuary, the top executive of the U.S. company said Friday [20 October].

Speaking at a press conference in Tokyo, Kodak Chairman and Chief Executive Officer George Fisher repeated his company's allegations that Fuji is blocking out Kodak by anticompetitive practices in the Japanese market.

"It is well understood in every business school in the world that if you are going to compete globally, you must not allow your competitors to have protected sanctuary," he said.

The world photographic industry is rapidly developing and introducing advanced products, Fisher said, citing a new photographic system called "advanced photo system" which Kodak and several joint developers assert will be easy to use and provide high quality photos.

In the multimedia era, the conventional photographic world and the electronic visual world will become borderless through advanced technology such as the digital photo CD, also developed by Kodak, Fisher added.

"It is extremely important that we be able to participate in the entire market of Japan," Fisher said, suggesting that Kodak has launched a showdown against Fuji not only for the photo film and paper area but also for potentially profitable new products.

When Kodak filed an antitrust case against Fuji in mid-May with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), it surprised Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Japanese Fair Trade Commission (FTC).

The two government agencies, which Kodak accused of overlooking Fuji's anticompetitive practices, said they had not heard of any complaints or frustrations on the part of the U.S. company regarding the photo film and paper market.

Observers speculated that Fisher, who as chairman of Motorola Inc. succeeded in winning concessions from Japan over the cellular phone market, launched a similar negotiation technique to make a hit as the head of Kodak.

Fisher repeated that Kodak needs to have access to the shelves of Japanese retail stores, which Kodak asserts Fuji is keeping closed to foreign competitors through control on distribution systems.

Asked why Kodak did not file the complaint with the FTC, Fisher said, "a U.S. company has very little standing in front of the FTC as a single entity."

"The best approach is to have the Japanese Government talk with the U.S. Government," he added.

Kodak officials said Fisher is in Tokyo on his regular annual visit to Japan.

Earlier in the day, he visited the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) for a meeting with Keidanren members.

According to Keidanren officials, Fisher made a similar call on the need of opening up the Japanese film and photographic paper market.

Some of the Keidanren officials termed Kodak's way of handling the issue as being like the attitude of "lawyers in the United States," and which puts Japanese off from talking. They said the Japanese market is not all that closed.

Fisher said Japan is open in terms of automobile and semiconductors, but not in general, the officials said.

Kansai-U.S. Cargo Route License Approved

OW2410035095 Tokyo KYODO in English
0305 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — A Transport Ministry panel has approved to issue a license for a Japanese cargo carrier to fly on a route linking Kansai International Airport in Osaka Bay, Chicago and New York, ministry officials said Tuesday [24 October].

The Transport Council, an advisory body to the transport minister, approved a weekly round-trip on that route for Nippon Cargo Airlines Co. from Nov. 8, the officials said.

The officials said the ministry will issue the license to the company on Tuesday.

The route is one of routes the United States agreed to open during Japan-U.S. aviation talks in July.

U.S. Officials To Study Japanese Bureaucracy

OW2010032395 Tokyo KYODO in English
0153 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Washington, Oct. 19 KYODO — The Japanese Embassy held an event Thursday [19 October] to support seven U.S. officials selected as the first group to visit Japan under a two-year program to study Japanese bureaucracy.

Former U.S. Ambassador to Japan Michael Mansfield joined the event to encourage the officials as a godfather of the so-called "Mansfield Program."

After studying Japanese and Japan's economic and political situation in Washington for a year, the officials will travel to Japan in October next year for a one-year stay to work together with Japanese bureaucrats in Tokyo.

The seven government officials will be dispatched to the Finance Ministry, the Defense Agency and other ministries and agencies in line with their offices back home.

The program was created in April last year with U.S. Congress taking the initiative seeing a strong need to develop specialists in Japan's decision-making process in a bid to cushion repeated trade disputes between the two nations.

Applications were limited to those U.S. Government officials who are interested in relations with Japan and will continue working in the U.S. Government after completing the program.

The U.S. pays all expenses for sending up to 10 officials per year for the two-year program.

The officials were selected as the first group through a tough competition of five applications for each seat, and they are mostly in their 30s, the oldest being 40 and the youngest 29.

Daiwa, CIA Cases May Affect Summit Talks

OW2410063395 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 23 Oct 95 Morning Edition p 3

[FBIS Translated Text] On the eve of the Japan-U.S. summit talks scheduled on 20 November between Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama and U.S. President Bill Clinton, who will soon visit Japan, both Japanese and U.S. economic officials in charge of preparations for the summit talks are tearing out their hair. In addition to the Central Intelligence Agency's (CIA's) wiretapping scandal during the Japan-U.S. auto talks, there is increasing suspicion that the Daiwa Bank New York branch engaged in organized efforts to conceal the huge losses resulting from its illegal U.S. Government Bond transactions. Both are difficult cases to handle at the summit talks, since they contributed to the two countries' distrust of each other.

Originally it seemed that the upcoming summit talks "would not have any worrisome economic issues" (as stated by a senior Foreign Ministry official), given that the climax of economic issues was over when the Japan-U.S. framework talks on the auto sector concluded. The Japanese staff for the summit was speeding up coordination to resume the suspended Japan-U.S. vice-ministerial talks to strengthen bilateral cooperation on global issues, such as measures for the environment and AIDS, and also to expand the policy dialogues between the two countries on wide-ranging issues.

Meanwhile, the suspected CIA wiretapping case was revealed recently. The United States promised it would "give an official answer, in consideration of Japan's anxiety," (as stated by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Thomas Hubbard), breaking from its traditional practice of giving "no comment about intelligence-gathering activities."

On the other hand, the "anxiety" about Japan's banking system in relation to bad debts has been aggravated to "distrust" as the Daiwa Bank's organized involvement in the case surfaced at the trials. A senior Foreign Ministry official said gloomily: "We cannot deny the possibility that the case might trigger U.S. demands on macroeconomic policy at the summit talks."

The summit staff of the two governments is trying very hard to calm down the anxiety, insisting: "It is a trivial matter viewed from the overall picture of Japan-U.S. economic relations." However, especially now, when the management of the Status of Forces Agreement has become a hot issue, mishandling of "trivial" problems bothering both countries can be decisive factors in the outcome of the summit talks.

Murayama, UN Chief Discuss Fund Sharing

OW2210031395 Tokyo KYODO in English
0301 GMT 22 Oct 95

[Corrected version of OW2210023295, as supplied by KYODO]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 21 KYODO — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama agreed with UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali on Saturday [21 October] on the need to review the share of funds provided by UN member nations, a Japanese official said.

The two men reached the agreement in a 20-minute session held the day before a special session of the UN General Assembly on the 50th anniversary of the world body's founding.

The official quoted Butrus-Ghali as saying the time has come to consider basis review in the wake of the 50th anniversary and the current UN financial crisis.

Butrus-Ghali particularly cited the need to decrease the U.S. share in light of the increasing UN role as the world body, the official said.

He did not make any specific comments on Japan's share, the official said.

In general, Murayama agreed on the need for a review, but noted that it should be pursued as part of overall UN reforms with the "mutual understanding" of all member nations, the official said.

The UN chief said that he and his staff are making their utmost efforts to streamline the UN office through budget and personnel cutbacks, the official said.

But the current $3 billion shortage in funds due to delayed payments by some nations is a "grave" problem that affects activities led by peacekeeping operations, the official said.

Murayama promised that Japan would urge other nations to make early payments, and reported that Japan will soon pay its promised peacekeeping mission contributions of $200 million, as the Diet recently approved the budget, the official said.

Welcoming it as "good news," Butrus-Ghali told Murayama that he is "optimistic" about solving the financial crisis, the official said.

Murayama also vowed Japan's "further cooperation" in UN activities, particularly in strengthening its ability to cope with population, poverty, regional conflicts and other global problems, the official said.

Noting the need to "ultimately" abolish nuclear weapons, the prime minister called for completion of the comprehensive test ban treaty next year and passage of a Japan-proposed resolution to ban nuclear test during the current session of the United Nations.

Murayama, Singapore's Goh on APEC, KEDO

OW2210022595 Tokyo KYODO in English
0207 GMT 22 Oct 95

[By Kohei Murayama]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 21 — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama failed to win the support of Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong here Saturday [21 October] on issues related to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and the UN Security Council, a Japanese spokesman said.

Goh did not agree to Japan's proposal that "flexible" principles of an "action agenda" for achieving free trade and investment in the region be hammered out at an APEC gathering in November in Osaka, the spokesman told reporters in briefing on a meeting between the two leaders.

Goh indirectly criticized Japan's plan to adopt "flexible" principles at the APEC meeting in a bid to keep politically sensitive farm products from being subject to free trade commitments.

The spokesman said Goh told Murayama that Japan should use its leadership to achieve "comprehensive" free trade.

"Exceptions are bad" for an APEC free trade system, Goh was quoted as saying.

Murayama told Goh that Japan will proceed with its plan to "establish a comprehensive but realistic and flexible set of principles," at the APEC gathering.

The two leaders acknowledged that defining principles is the only remaining problem before agreeing on the "action agenda." The agenda outlines concrete steps for each member nation with the goal of liberalizing trade and investment by 2010 for developed nations and 2020 for developing nations, the spokesman said.

Goh reserved expressing his support of Japan's plan to run for a nonpermanent seat of the UN Security Council next year.

The Singapore prime minister said India has also urged Singapore to support its bid for a nonpermanent seat at the council.

Murayama and Goh are both in New York to address a special session of the UN General Assembly to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the world body's founding.

Murayama and Goh also agreed to work together toward a "successful" summit meeting in March, to be held between Asian and European nations in Thailand, the spokesman said.

In response to Goh's request to attend the meeting from its start, Murayama promised to make an effort despite a tight schedule in the Diet, he said.

Turning to the North Korean nuclear issue, Murayama expressed his appreciation for Singapore's recent financial aid in supplying nuclear plants to North Korea, as part of an agreement which will lead to the dismantling of Pyongyang's nuclear development project.

But Murayama also requested "continued financing," apparently referring to money needed to send heavy fuel oil to North Korea as a stopgap fuel supply until the promised nuclear plants are completed.

Singapore recently announced that it will join the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO), the group working to supply the nuclear reactors.

KEDO was established in March in New York with Japan, South Korea and the United States as the prime members under a landmark nuclear accord reached in October last year between Washington and Pyongyang.

Murayama Urges Nuclear Arms Cut in UN Speech

OW2210235895 Tokyo KYODO in English 2335 GMT 22 Oct 95

[By Kohei Murayama]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 22 KYODO — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama called for the elimination of nuclear weapons and reiterated Japan's commitment to peace and nonuse of military force but made no apology for Japan's wartime aggression in his UN speech Sunday [22 October].

Also making his speech relatively weaker than his recent remarks, the prime minister only indirectly referred to France and China over their continued testing of nuclear weapons and to Japan's candidacy for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council.

Murayama highlighted the war-renouncing Japanese Constitution in the five-minute speech to a special session of the UN General Assembly to commemorate the United Nations' 50th anniversary.

"Firmly resolved that the scourge of war must never be repeated, Japan adopted its peace Constitution," Murayama said.

"Since then, in accordance with its basic philosophy as a peace-loving nation, including not resorting to the use of force, which is prohibited by its Constitution, Japan has made cooperation with the United Nations an important pillar of its foreign policy and has thus been contributing actively to the peace and prosperity of the international community."

Murayama said he wants to use this occasion to "reaffirm the determination that the people of Japan made 50 years ago to live in peace, trusting in the justice and faith of the peace-loving peoples of the world."

But he stopped short of reiterating the phrases "deep remorse" and a "heartfelt apology" for Japan's colonial rule and aggression in many countries, particularly in Asia — words used in a statement he issued Aug. 15 on the 50th anniversary of Japan's surrender to the Allied Forces at the end of World War II.

On nuclear weapons, Murayama said, "It is time we accelerated our efforts toward the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons" as the U.N.'s 50th anniversary is also the 50th year since the atomic bombing "tragedies" of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

"I thus find it all the more deplorable that nuclear testing continues at this juncture. I strongly call for the immediate cessation of nuclear testing," he said, indirectly criticizing France and China, both of which have conducted nuclear tests this year.

"Toward this end, it is extremely important that a (Japan-proposed) resolution calling for the cessation of nuclear testing be adopted with the support of as many member states as possible" during the current UN session, he said.

"As a major step toward nuclear disarmament I also believe that it is a most urgent task to complete the negotiations on a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty by next spring and to sign it by next autumn," he said.

Murayama did not refer to Japan's candidacy for a permanent Security Council seat but indirectly touched on this point by stressing the need "for an expansion of the council that includes an increase in its permanent membership."

Regarding Japan's commitments to UN activities, Murayama said Tokyo "stands ready to cooperate and move actively for peace in such areas as humanitarian assistance, preventive diplomacy and peacekeeping operations, and arms controls and disarmament with regard to nuclear weapons and conventional weapons, such as antipersonnel land mines and small arms."

Murayama welcomed a new UN strategy of pursuing "human security" in addition to "national security," saying this concept is "consonant with my own political principles" of realizing a "human-centered society."

This will help solve the problem of poverty, which is the root of regional religious and ethnic rivalries, he said.

To this end, the premier said Japan intends to "play an even more expanded role" in economic development programs and noted Japan has proposed a new strategy that focuses on "combining various policy measures in a comprehensive manner."

On the ongoing debate on UN financial reform, Murayama called on other member nations to urgently and seriously address the issue.

He also said Japan, as the second largest fund contributor, calls upon all 185 member nations to face up to the financial crisis of the world body and to "honor their financial obligations."

The UN gathering brought together heads of state and government from some 150 countries who are each to make a five-minute speech.

The assembly is scheduled to adopt a commemorative declaration at the end of its three-day session Tuesday.

Murayama Urges 'Playing Due Part' in UN Reform

OW2410063695 Tokyo KYODO in English 0546 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said Tuesday [24 October] Japan should play its due part in reforming the United Nations to enable it to deal better with a multitude of problems facing the world.

Speaking at a government-sponsored event celebrating the 50th anniversary of the world body's foundation, he said the UN role as an international organization is increasingly vital at a time when the world faces such global issues as disarmament, poverty and environmental destruction.

Pointing to the need to reform the UN Security Council, boost the UN role in socioeconomic fields and pull the world body out of its budgetary crisis, Murayama contended international society must do its utmost to reform the UN properly.

"To bring success to these efforts, I believe we Japanese also carry a heavy responsibility to apply our wisdom and efforts," the premier said.

Murayama also renewed his determination to contribute to the UN as much as possible so the world body can grapple better with its mountain of problems.

The premier returned from New York on Monday, where he attended a special session of the UN General assembly to celebrate the UN's 50th anniversary.

'News Analysis' Views Murayama's UN Speech

OW2310023995 Tokyo KYODO in English 0207 GMT 23 Oct 95

["News Analysis" by Kohei Murayama: "Murayama's UN Speech Suggests Policy Dilemma"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 22 KYODO — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama exposed in his speech at the United Nations on Sunday [22 October] that Tokyo faces a possible policy dilemma when trying to increase its noneconomic role in ensuring global security.

In his five-minute speech to a special session of the UN General Assembly marking its 50th anniversary, Murayama highlighted two issues — Japan's unchanged nonmilitary commitments for peace, and strong calls for "ultimate" elimination of nuclear weapons.

But when regional conflicts such as the Bosnian problem become major global concerns requiring UN peace efforts, Japan's candidacy for a permanent UN Security Council seat and its other definite political commitments appear contradictory.

In fact, Murayama did not confirm Japan's candidacy, indirectly touching on this point by noting the need to expand the U.N.'s most powerful policy-making panel, which is composed of main World War II victors — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States.

Meanwhile, Murayama promised boldly to "play an even more expanded role" in economic development programs, particularly in eradicating poverty, which he described as the root for regional religious and ethnic rivalries.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry official said Japan has already officially conveyed its intention as a candidate, and there were many major issues to address in the short speech.

However, the bottom line is that Murayama's ruling coalition itself remains divided on whether it should assume a permanent seat, with some worried about the subsequent responsibility for taking part in UN peacekeeping activities involving combat operations.

Murayama, who leads the pacifist Social Democratic Party, is reluctant to draw any early conclusion on the issue, which could possibly lead to the collapse of his 15-month-old coalition government.

Coalition partner New Party Sakigake [Harbinger] is clearly opposed to taking a permanent council seat as the party's deputy head Shusei Tanaka recently said, "Japan should give up the idea of winning permanent membership."

But many lawmakers of the Liberal Democratic Party — the largest member of the tripartite coalition — are positive about taking permanent membership.

A Japanese source said that in drafting the speech bickering continued until the last minute between the Foreign Ministry trying to address as many issues as possible, and the prime minister's aides pressing to highlight Japan's nonmilitary peace stance and antinuclear calls.

Translation of the delicate parts into English continued into Sunday morning, the source said, describing a premature English version as "dangerous."

In his speech, Murayama emphasized the war-renouncing Japanese Constitution and quoted phrases from its principles to underscore that Japan will continue to pursue peace without resorting to military force.

But diplomats and other experts said the philosophical constitutional principles were too difficult for the international public to grasp the message.

"Firmly resolved that the scourge of war must never be repeated, Japan adopted its peace Constitution," Murayama said.

"Since then, in accordance with its basic philosophy as a peace-loving nation — including the nonresort to the use of force prohibited by its Constitution — Japan has made cooperation with the United Nations an important pillar of its foreign policy and has thus been contributing actively to the peace and prosperity of the international community," he said.

"On this occasion, I should like to reaffirm the determination that the people of Japan made 50 years ago to live in peace, trusting in the justice and faith of the peace-loving peoples of the world," Murayama said.

In this, the prime minister apparently hoped to quell recent Asian criticism toward him.

South and North Korea are reacting strongly to Murayama's recent comments to a Diet panel that the Korea-Japan Annexation Treaty in 1910 was concluded in a "legally valid" way, restating Tokyo's long-held position.

The treaty sanctioned the Japanese colonial rule of Korea that continued until Japan's surrender in World War II in 1945.

In Britain and the Netherlands, former prisoners of war are stepping up calls on Tokyo to apologize and compensate them for the former Japanese Imperial Army's brutal acts against prisoners of wars.

Also leaving seeds for further Asian criticism, Murayama's speech stopped short of reiterating "deep remorse" and a "heartfelt apology" for Japan's colonial rule and aggression in many countries, particularly in Asia — words used in a statement issued Aug. 15, the day Japan surrendered to the Allied Forces 50 years ago.

During talks also held Sunday with Chinese President Jiang Zemin on the fringes of the UN session, Murayama was slapped with the Chinese leader's concerns over "some people" posing misleading views toward Japan's wartime activities.

Jiang was apparently referring to disputes that surfaced among Murayama's coalition parties in drafting the statement and also over Diet bickering when passing a resolution on Japan's wartime acts in the 50th anniversary of the war's end.

On nuclear issues, Murayama called for the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons but only indirectly condemned China and France for their recent nuclear tests.

In the meeting with Jiang, Murayama reiterated that China should refrain from further testing and reaffirmed Japan's policy of not resuming grant aid unless Beijing promises to do so.

But, citing the importance of maintaining ties with China for peace and stability in the Asian region, Murayama agreed with Jiang that the nuclear dispute should not hurt their overall economic and other cooperation.

Murayama Returns Home After UN Visit

OW2310103395 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 23 KYODO — Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama arrived back in Tokyo on Monday after addressing a special UN General Assembly session in New York commemorating the world body's 50th anniversary.

During his stay in New York after arriving Saturday, he met separately with Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali and Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

His main mission was to appeal for a halt to nuclear testing and for cooperation in passing a UN resolution urging a test ban.

Europe Warns Against Favoritism in Auto Market

OW2410082995 Tokyo KYODO in English
0725 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — A European auto industry leader Tuesday [24 October] cautioned Japan against discriminating in favor of the United States in improving foreign access to its automobile market.

Giorgio Garuzzo, president of the European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA), said at a luncheon at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan, "Europe would not accept the undermining of our position by favoritism to one of Japan's other trading partners."

While welcoming the successful conclusion of the negotiations between Tokyo and Washington on opening the Japanese auto market, Garuzzo said developments in the Japan-U.S. auto agreement pose "a risk" to the interests of European automakers.

"The ACEA is going to monitor what is going on," Garuzzo said, noting that Japan and the European Union have agreed that Europe will also have an opportunity to assess the implementation of the market-opening measures agreed upon with Washington.

ACEA members will seek to ensure that all automakers benefit equally from new opportunities in the Japanese market, he said.

Referring to numerical targets the U.S. has set for increasing sales outlets in Japan, Garuzzo warned the U.S. against resorting to political pressure to attain such "ambitious" targets.

Despite Japan's insistence on no commitment to numerical targets, the U.S. "Clearly intends to use all the means at their disposal to secure for U.S. companies 200 additional sales outlets by 1996 and 1,000 extra sales points by the year 2000," said Garuzzo, chief operating officer of Fiat S.P.A.

"American firms have every right to attempt to achieve them by commercial means. But we shall be vigilant to ensure that political pressure does not secure for American producers a disproportionate share of new import franchises," he said.

To further improve access to the Japanese domestic car distribution system, Garuzzo called for more efforts by Japan to help foreign automakers strengthen their dealership networks in the nation.

"The cost of developing a dealership network in Japan is considerably higher than in the U.S. or Europe," Garuzzo said.

Garuzzo expressed hopes that the Japanese Government will carefully consider European proposals for tax relief for importers of foreign cars to reduce the cost of support for their dealers in Japan and additional fiscal incentives to encourage more domestic dealers to handle imports.

"We believe that the Japanese Government should continue actively to encourage more openness, in Japan's own interest," Garuzzo said.

Conference Starts as Prelude to APEC Meeting

OW2410102895 Tokyo KYODO in English
0929 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Osaka, Oct. 24 KYODO — An annual convention for exploring business opportunities started its four-day session in Osaka on Tuesday [24 October], with the number of registrants for business talks totaling a record 1,654, promoters said.

The Global Business Opportunities Convention '95 is especially important because it is being held as a prelude to the Osaka meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in November, according to the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Osaka prefectural government and other promoters of the event.

The conference is being attended by some 740 businesspeople from 42 countries including China, the United States, Canada and Jamaica, the promoters said.

Many foreign participants have shown interest in exporting emergency supplies, houses and building materials to Japan as vivid memories remain from the destructive Jan. 17 earthquake in the Kobe area.

The promoters said the convention will also hold seminars and symposiums expected to draw a total of around 5,500 people.

Reflecting Japanese manufacturers' increasing shift to production in East Asia, symposiums on automotive and electronic parts are expected to attract a large turnout, they added.

The chamber will hold a related conference titled "Asia Pacific Venture '95" on business opportunities for venture businesses in the region, to start Thursday as another event supporting the APEC meeting.

APEC Congress Seeking Free-Trade Framework

OW2310124595 Tokyo KYODO in English
1157 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Osaka, Oct. 23 KYODO — Business representatives from Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum members called on the forum Monday [23 October] to draw up a comprehensive free-trade framework.

The appeal, made in a joint communique adopted at the APEC business congress, also called for economic deregulation, simplification of customs clearance procedures and an easing of regulations on visa issues.

The meeting, sponsored by Japan's Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), was attended by 81 representatives of business groups in 14 member economies.

The representatives discussed the use of multimedia systems to promote cooperation among business organizations, technology transfers for the development of small- and medium-size enterprises, and environmental protection, Keidanren officials said.

Keidanren Chairman Shoichiro Toyoda and two observers from Russia were among those in attendance.

The next session will be held in the Philippines next year.

Farm Debate 'Undermines' Tokyo's Role in APEC

OW2410003695 Tokyo KYODO in English
2321 GMT 23 Oct 95

[Second in series of articles on upcoming APEC talks in Osaka by Keiji Urakami: "Farm Debate Undermines Japan's Leadership Role at APEC"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — One month ahead of the Osaka summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, Japan finds itself in a political bind over the key issue of agriculture.

As the chair of this year's APEC round, the country is under pressure from the majority of the 18 APEC members to take decisive action in favor of farm trade liberalization in the Asia-Pacific region in time for the APEC leaders' summit in November.

But as for putting its own house in order to the satisfaction of APEC, Tokyo faces a dilemma brought on by the powerful domestic farm lobby. That pressure group is spearheaded by the Liberal Democratic Party, the largest force in the three-party ruling coalition.

"Japan is torn between the APEC majority and the expected resistance from farmers, who have a strong influence on elections," said an official at the Trade Ministry.

If the farm issue, the thorniest among pending APEC topics, is left unsettled even after the Nov. 19 APEC summit, Japan's credibility in the global community will be tarnished significantly.

And more crucially, the grandiose scheme envisioned by APEC's 18 leaders in Bogor, Indonesia, last November, will begin to look dangerously like a pipe dream.

"The Osaka meeting will be a real test of Japan's capability to look beyond its sectoral preoccupations and give a lead to countries in the Asia-Pacific region," Australian Trade Minister Bob McMullan said in a recent press conference in Tokyo.

At issue is whether or not to grant special treatment to agriculture by excluding it from APEC's principle of "comprehensiveness" which calls for uniform application of APEC free trade accords to all industrial sectors, without exception.

The principle is expected to be included in action guidelines to be formalized by the APEC leaders in Osaka. The guidelines are aimed at achieving their pledge in Bogor to bring down barriers to regional trade and investment by 2020.

Japan downplays the seriousness of the agricultural dispute by boasting a broad agreement reached recently over the less contentious issue of economic cooperation among APEC members.

Specifically, the APEC leaders are expected to formalize a set of proposals intended to beef up regional cooperation in 13 areas, such as human resources development, infrastructure improvement and telecom information.

Economic cooperation within APEC is one of APEC's three major pillars, along with trade liberalization and trade facilitation.

The farm dispute pits farm-exporting economies like the United States and Australia, which urge the principle's rigid enforcement, against Japan, China, South Korea and Taiwan, which want special consideration given for sensitive sectors like agriculture.

The high-level APEC meeting in Tokyo in early October, the last working-level gathering before the Osaka session, failed to strike a deal over the farm issue, with the two camps refusing to budge an inch.

But the Japanese team says it will keep looking for ways to break the impasse until the very end of the Osaka summit. "We have one full month ahead of the summit," said Hirotomo Seki, co-chairman of the APEC high-level round for this year.

Japan's optimism was questioned by conference observers and even APEC delegates from other members.

Kobsak Chutikul, the chief Thai APEC delegate, said after the Tokyo meeting that the farm issue was no longer in the bureaucrats' hands. "There has to be a political decision by APEC leaders."

Kobsak bitterly criticized Japan for what he views as its lukewarm stance on the farm issue. "We should not exclude any one sector from the very beginning. If one starts to say we can't do it, every country will start to say we can't do it."

Japan also came under criticism even from a member within the same camp. Ban Ki-moon [name as received], the head of the South Korean delegation, said, "You (Japan) can't always just take an objective and neutral position."

Asked about the possibility of the Osaka meeting skirting the sensitive farm issue and leaving it to discussion for next year and beyond, Japan's Seki said, "that's impossible."

The Japanese Government fears that further commitment to liberalizing the farm sector would refuel the wrath of farmers already angered by partial rice market opening under the Uruguay Round accords.

Japanese International Trade and Industry Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, president of the LDP, said some "flexibility" may be needed in actual enforcement of APEC's comprehensive principle.

Japanese Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Hosei Norota said it is almost impossible for Japan to make a further pledge on any plans for acceleration of the Uruguay Round accords.

A Farm Ministry official said, "It does not make sense to accept the idea of accelerated tariff cuts. Even two years have yet to pass since the conclusion of the Uruguay Round."

Japanese lawmakers representing agricultural constituencies recently made a lobbying tour to Asian nations and the U.S., and urged them to accept Tokyo's stance on the farm issue.

But the lobbying failed to produce the desired results. In Washington, for example, U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor flatly rejected the Japanese request put forward by Kabun Muto, the former foreign minister.

Australian Trade Minister McMullan said Japan's "strategic, political and economic interests in this part of the world far outweigh its preoccupation with defending narrow sectoral interests."

Nuclear White Paper Criticizes PRC, France

*OW2410020795 Tokyo KYODO in English
0113 GMT 24 Oct 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — This year's government white paper on nuclear energy approved by the cabinet Tuesday [24 October] criticizes China and France for their nuclear testing.

The white paper says the testing of nuclear weapons by the two countries "could throw cold water on the international trend mounting for the conclusion of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty."

Concerning a domestic controversial issue of disposal of high- level radioactive waste, the white paper follows a previous government policy that such waste should be stored at a ground facility for 30 to 50 years in vitrified form, and then be buried deep underground.

The white paper urges every citizen to think about the issue to decide on the disposal procedure and a permanent disposal site.

There is a ground facility to store nuclear waste in Rokkasho, Aomori Prefecture, northern Japan, but the government has not yet picked a site for permanent storage.

Tokyo, Hanoi Conclude Bilateral Tax Convention

*OW2410085395 Tokyo KYODO in English
0822 GMT 24 Oct 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Japan and Vietnam on Tuesday [24 October] concluded a bilateral tax convention to avoid double taxation, government officials said.

The pact, based on the model of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), aims to prevent double taxing of companies and also prevent companies from evading taxation.

It also calls for an exchange of information and cooperation between the two countries on taxation.

Kono on DPRK Stance at Nonaligned Summit

*OW2110081695 Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 20 Oct 95 Morning Edition p 2*

[FBIS Translated Text] On 19 October, Foreign Minister Yohei Kono commented on issues concerning the DPRK (North Korea), such as the fact that Japan is not allowed to attend a summit meeting of nonaligned countries — which is currently being held in Colombia — as a guest nation due to the DPRK's opposition. He stated: "In viewing North Korea's recent remarks, I cannot help feeling anxiety. These matters force me to wonder whether the negotiations for normalizing Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations will go well." Thus, he indicated that the DPRK's recent stance would have an adverse effect on the resumption of Japan-DPRK normalization talks. Kono made the remarks in reply to questions by Hiroshi Oki from the Liberal Democratic Party at a session of the House of Councilors' Committee on Foreign Affairs.

OECD Official Welcomes Yen's Downturn

OW2310122095 Tokyo KYODO in English
1049 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 23 KYODO — A senior official of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) welcomed the yen's downturn Monday [23 October], saying it will favorably affect the economies of all member countries.

Kumiharu Shigehara, head of the organization's Economic Affairs Bureau, said in a lecture in Tokyo that the yen's decline will strengthen confidence in the Japanese economy and is expected to stimulate consumer spending.

The weak yen will also help increase Japanese investment in long-term U.S. treasury bonds, eventually bringing down interest rates in the country, he said.

Shigehara ruled out the possibility that the yen's decline will lead to an expansion of Japan's current account surplus.

He said Japan's economic growth projections for 1995 and 1996 will be revised downward by 1.0 and 0.5 percentage point from the 1.3 percent and 2.3 percent estimated in an OECD report released in June.

Takemura Comments on Yen's 'Excessive Strength'

OW2410021595 Tokyo KYODO in English
0133 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — The yen's excessive strength against the dollar should be corrected further, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Tuesday [24 September].

"I understand the Group of Seven (G-7) countries agree the currency market should move toward further reversal of the strong yen," Takemura told a news conference.

In early October, the G-7 nations confirmed an April accord on "the orderly reversal" of the strong yen.

On Monday's midterm business reports by securities houses, Takemura said the brokerages continue to face financial difficulties.

"I expect each of them to make further restructuring and rationalization efforts," he said.

Noting that a gap has expanded between the earnings of major brokerages and second-tier brokerages, Takemura said his ministry is closely watching their business operations.

All of Japan's "Big Four" securities houses reported pretax profits for the half year ended Sept. 30, while nine of the nation's 10 second-tier brokerages remained in the red.

Regarding the financial fraud recently revealed in Daiwa Bank's U.S. operations, Takemura said, "We learned it is important to disclose information as soon as possible."

Takemura expressed his dissatisfaction over the bank's delay in reporting to the Finance Ministry the results of internal surveys, and said the bank is coming in for criticism of its overall procedures, as well.

Asked whether the ministry take any action on the bank, Takemura only said, "It is premature to comment on that."

Survey Shows Consumer Confidence Picking Up

OW2410082895 Tokyo KYODO in English
0755 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Japanese consumer confidence showed an improvement in a quarterly survey in September after two consecutive quarterly slips, with sentiment on price trends improving notably, a government report said Tuesday [24 October].

The Economic Planning Agency said the seasonally adjusted consumer sentiment index came to 41.1, up 0.3 point from the previous June survey.

An agency official attributed the improvement to the fact that the yen was falling against the U.S. dollar on foreign exchange markets while the survey was being conducted in mid-September.

The yen's retreat against the dollar had a favorable impact on Japanese stock prices and pushed a key stock price index back over 18,000. This bolstered consumer prices as well, he said.

The consumer confidence index attributes numerical values to people's attitudes in five major livelihood categories for the coming six months — overall livelihood, income situation, price trends, employment and purchases of durable goods.

In the latest survey, the agency said the confidence index on livelihood improved 0.1 point, on prices 1.8 points, and on employment 0.7 point.

That on income and durable goods purchases, however, dropped by 0.2 point and 0.3 point respectively.

The agency said household purchases of 28 major durable goods, which it surveys together with consumer confidence, also showed an increase after a drop in the previous survey.

The percentage of households that bought cars and furniture during the survey period stood at a seasonally adjusted 1.8 percent, up 0.3 percentage point from the June survey.

Purchases of air conditioners and audiovisual equipment were particularly strong, it said.

The agency expects that durable-goods buying will remain unchanged in the next survey in December.

EPA Eying 3-Percent Growth Rate Target

*OW2410061195 Tokyo KYODO in English
0352 GMT 24 Oct 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — The Economic Planning Agency (EPA) is considering setting a future economic growth target of around 3 percent, the head of the agency said Tuesday [24 October].

EPA Director General Isamu Miyazaki said at a news conference, "we will make reference" to a government panel's projection that Japan's real gross domestic product (GDP) will grow an annual average of around 3.1 percent in coming years.

The Industrial Structure Council, an advisory body to the trade minister, made the estimate.

The projection will be also reflected in ongoing preparations for a new five-year economic plan under compilation by the Economic Council, an advisory panel to the prime minister, Miyazaki said.

However, Miyazaki was hesitant about the industrial structure council's proposal of dividing the five-year period through 2000 into three stages.

"I want to conduct further studies on such a three-stage rocket," he said.

Miyazaki is apparently eyeing a two-stage economic plan — one to overcome the inertia of the current zero growth and the other for medium-term growth once the economy gets back on track.

EPA Report Indicates Temporary Economic Fall

*OW2410083195 Tokyo KYODO in English
0736 GMT 24 Oct 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Japan's diffusion index of coincident indicators stayed below the boom-or-bust line of 50 percent for the fourth straight month in August, raising the possibility that the economy was headed downward temporarily, a government report said Tuesday [24 October].

The index, which measures current economic conditions, came to 40.0 percent in August, against 10.0 percent in July, the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said in a preliminary report.

The index of leading indicators, closely watched as a barometer of economic trends in the coming months, also remained below 50 percent for the fourth month in a row, standing at 30.0 percent, against 18.2 percent in July, the EPA said.

"The latest data indicate the Japanese economy continues to move weakly," an EPA official said.

"The economy may be headed downward temporarily, given the four consecutive monthly declines in the coincident index," he said.

The EPA also said the index of lagging indicators, which traces economic trends in the past, was at 28.6 percent, against 64.3 percent in July. This marked the index's first downturn below 50 percent in two months.

when the coincident index stays below 50 percent for a third consecutive month, it is usually considered as the economy's turning point toward a phase of contraction.

Masaru Takagi, chief economist at the Fuji Research Institute, said the August report provided more evidence that the Japanese economy is in a contraction phase.

"After hitting a peak in March, the economy apparently entered the contraction phase in April," he said.

Among the 10 coincident index components adopted in August, six were in the minus column, according to the EPA.

The six, including the industrial production index, the capacity utilization ratio and the job offers to job seekers ratio, all showed minus readings in July.

The four components in the plus column in August included the three indexes that were in the minus side in July — electric power consumption, labor input and investment goods shipment.

BOJ Governor Comments on Financial System

OW2410040895 Tokyo KYODO in English
0341 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Bank of Japan [BOJ] Governor Yasuo Matsushita on Tuesday [24 October] downplayed the seriousness of Japan's banking problems.

"The core of Japan's financial system has not been shaken," Matsushita said at a private symposium.

He said the heavy burden of problem loans facing major Japanese banks will be written off within two or three years.

As a way to dispose of these loans, Matsushita cited the need to study the use of fiscal funds.

"People should also shoulder part of the financial burden," he said.

On the currency system, the governor said the current floating-rate system is "realistic," apparently rejecting such ideas as a target zone system.

Matsushita Comments Further

OW2410054795 Tokyo KYODO in English
0527 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasuo Matsushita on Tuesday [24 October] played down growing international concerns over the stability and soundness of Japan's financial system.

"The bad loan issue at financial institutions is serious, but the core of the financial system is intact," Matsushita said in a speech at a private symposium marking the 10th anniversary of the Plaza Currency Accord in 1985.

"There is a strong possibility Japan's core financial institutions will be able to almost complete write-offs of nonperforming loans over a few years [sentence as received]," Matsushita said.

Those institutions have strong capital bases and profitability to more than offset problem loans, he said.

Global confidence in the health of Japan's financial system has been shaken by a series of failures of lending institutions, housing loan companies on the verge of collapse due to huge bad loans and the recent revelation of the trading loss scandal at Daiwa Bank.

On the currency market, Matsushita supported the current floating-rate system as being "realistic."

Matsushita was apparently rejecting recent suggestions such as the creation of a target zone system between the yen and the dollar.

Matsushita said "prescriptions at three levels" are necessary to solve the bad-loan issue.

As the first prescription, the BOJ chief called for restructuring efforts by individual institutions to restore capital adequacy.

Matsushita said a wide range of burden-sharing among financial institutions is necessary as the second prescription, citing a hike in deposit insurance premium.

As the third prescription, Matsushita referred to the possible use of public funds to dispose of bad loans. "It may become necessary to seek the shouldering of costs by the people," he said.

In handling the problem-loan issue, a scheme for disposing of housing loan companies is particularly important, Matsushita said.

Almost all domestic financial institutions are exposed to housing loan companies, and a burden-sharing formula for losses at those companies will have a huge influence on individual creditor institutions, the financial system and the burden to be shouldered by the people, he said.

The financial system research council, the advisory panel to the finance minister, plans to map out by the end of this year a scheme for disposing of housing loan companies.

On the international currency system, Matsushita rejected the idea of introducing target ranges to avoid erratic movements in the foreign exchange markets.

"The current floating-rate system is the most realistic and the wisest selection," he said.

As one of the ways to achieve stability of exchange rates under the current system, the BOJ chief said, "Each country should take appropriate steps for a shared goal of noninflationary sustainable economic growth."

In cases of short-term erratic movements on the currency market, the world's monetary authorities should take joint action, including coordinated intervention, to "remove wrong speculation and excessive worries about the future course," he said.

The Bank of Japan is keeping in close contact with other central banks with the aim of holding a shared view on the currency markets, Matsushita said.

The two-day symposium was attended by those who signed the Plaza Accord for a higher dollar, including former Japanese Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita and former U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker.

IMF Head Urges Decisive Moves on Banking

OW2410122495 Tokyo KYODO in English
1151 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — The head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said Tuesday [24 October] that Japan needs to take prompt and decisive measures, including the use of public funds, to consolidate its financial system, so as to regain the confidence of world financial sectors.

"It is an important issue to be tackled by a comprehensive program, in a timely way," IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus said at a press conference held at the Japanese Finance Ministry.

Use of some public money to deal with the problem, particularly to help smaller financial institutions, may be unavoidable, although "nobody likes the idea," he said, adding that confidence in the financial system must be maintained among people in Japan as well as in the rest of world.

Camdessus is in Tokyo to attend an international symposium commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Plaza Accord.

Since his arrival here Monday, he has also had opportunities to exchange views on financial matters with Japanese financial officials and experts and was told that Japan will hammer out a package of steps for stabilization of the financial system by the end of this year, the IMF head said.

This encouraged his hope that Japan will cope with the problem successfully as it did in the bankruptcy cases of Kizu Credit Union and two other credit unions earlier this year, in which panic was avoided.

Asked whether Japan has established a sufficiently strong mechanism to cope with any financial crisis, as the IMF urged Japan to do in its latest annual report, Camdessus said he believed that the Japanese Government has taken the problem seriously enough, and has announced its intention to take decisive action. Now it is a matter of taking comprehensive action swiftly, he said.

The IMF chief told reporters that the ongoing financial scandal involving Daiwa Bank has to be considered separately from the other difficulties in the financial system.

The Daiwa Bank scandal coincides with the systemic problem, but is a "problem of supervision by the authorities," he said, adding that the general difficulties in the financial system rather stem from the undermining of financial institution portfolios by declines in stock prices and real estate values.

As for exchange rates, Camdessus reiterated that the IMF supports an "orderly reversal" of the weak U.S. dollar against the yen and German mark.

A slightly stronger dollar would help the U.S. economy, where the possibility of inflation exists, while for Japan a weaker yen is desirable to pull its economy out of nearly four years of recession, he said.

Meanwhile, a slightly weaker mark would help Germany, spurring economic activity there that has slowed somewhat recently, Camdessus said.

Daiwa Bank Barred From Operating Pension Funds

OW2410142395 Tokyo KYODO in English
1306 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — The Pension Fund Association said Tuesday [24 October] it will stop entrusting the scandal-ridden Daiwa Bank to manage its funds.

The association, which governs about 1,900 pension funds established by private corporations across the nation, said it has been asking the Osaka-based bank to manage about 600 million yen worth of pension funds monthly.

The association said it will stop allotting new funds to Daiwa Bank but allow it to manage 350 billion yen already entrusted.

Daiwa has been accused of trying to cover up a loss of $1.1 billion in unauthorized bond trading at its New York branch.

Association officials said there is a possibility that some of the pension funds entrusted to Daiwa were used for bond transactions by Hidetoshi Iguchi, the 44-year-old former trader detained by U.S. authorities over the scandal.

The association's operating funds totaled 2.4 trillion yen at the end of March this year, of which 350 billion yen have been managed through Daiwa Bank.

The officials said the association will make a decision on how to deal with the fund being managed by Daiwa after the investigation by U.S. authorities is completed.

NFP Lawmaker Reportedly Advised Credit Union

OW2010132395 Tokyo KYODO in English
1254 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO — An opposition lawmaker failed to state his earnings in advisory fees paid by a collapsed credit union, in a mandatory report that lawmakers must file describing their assets, sources familiar with the case said Friday [20 October].

Ichizo Miyamoto, a House of Representatives member from the main opposition Shinshinto (New Frontier Party [NFP]), received a total of about 26 million yen — 300,000 yen every month — from Kizu Credit Union between December 1987 and March 1995, but these earnings were not included in his asset report submitted to the diet, the sources said.

Further, Miyamoto received an almost interest-free loan of 60 million yen from the credit union in April 1990 but did not disclose it either, according to the sources.

He became an adviser to Kizu in December 1987 and resigned that post in February this year, a month before Kizu's financial trouble surfaced.

Miyamoto, a former Finance Ministry bureaucrat, has gone on record saying he had no acquaintances among top executives at Kizu, the Osaka-based credit union that went under due to lax lending policies.

A company run by his wife repaid the loan in mid-September on his behalf, the sources said.

Miyamoto declined to comment.

Miyamoto quit the Finance Ministry in November 1982 and was first elected to the lower house in July 1993.

Tax Reforms Split MOF, Home Affairs Ministries

*OW2110074095 Tokyo KYODO in English
0634 GMT 21 Oct 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 21 KYODO — The Finance Ministry and the Home Affairs Ministry are at loggerheads over tax reforms demanded by the business community, officials said Saturday [21 October].

The Finance Ministry seeks a comprehensive tax reform, including possible cuts in both state and local taxes, while the Home Affairs Ministry opposes the idea on grounds that it will hurt the financial stability of local governments, the officials said.

The Home Affairs Ministry is worried that the Finance Ministry's stance may result in reductions of local taxes, which are the main source of income for local governments, they said.

The powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) has come up with a set of tax reform requests, including the abolition of the controversial land value tax and cuts in corporate taxes.

The Finance Ministry contends that the requested tax cuts should be studied in tandem with reductions of local taxes, such as the fixed assets tax and the enterprise tax, the officials said.

The Home Affairs Ministry is concerned that the Finance Ministry may be intending to retain the land value tax in exchange for rate cuts in the fixed assets tax, the officials said.

The Home Affairs Ministry insists that local taxes be kept untouched since they are a stable source of income for local governments, they said.

Panel: Government Needs To Show Reform Benefits

*OW2010112395 Tokyo KYODO in English
1014 GMT 20 Oct 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO — The government's Tax Commission pointed to the need for the government to show how much money can be saved by administrative reforms before taking up the review of the consumption tax, the head of the commission said Friday [20 October].

Kan Kato, chairman of the advisory body to the prime minister, said, "without presenting numerical effects of the reforms, it is difficult to win people's understanding on changes in the consumption tax rate."

The government has already unveiled a plan to raise the rate of the consumption tax to 5 percent from the current 3 percent from April 1997.

But the new rate is subject to changes, depending on the results of a comprehensive study to be made by Sept. 30 next year on progress in administrative and fiscal reforms, financial resources for social security, tax breaks and the nation's fiscal condition.

Appearing after the commission's general meeting, Kato told reporters that commission members stressed the need for the government to step up its reform efforts and clarify the results, before moving to change the consumption tax.

Auto Mandatory Inspection Excluded Four Parts

*OW2010080795 Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN
in Japanese 19 Oct 95 Morning Edition p 5*

[FBIS Translated Text] On 18 October, the Transport Ministry officially announced that four car parts — shock absorbers, struts, power steering, and trailer hitches — will be excluded from the "important safety parts" subject to mandatory disassembly and maintenance inspection when replacing or repairing auto parts. The ruling takes effect on 20 October, following the revision of the ministry's related regulations under the Transport Vehicle Act. The exclusion is based on the agreement reached through negotiations on automobiles and auto parts during the Japan-U.S. economic framework talks.

GM Head Vows To Expand Business Beyond Yanase

OW2410102995 Tokyo KYODO in English 0945 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — The chief of General Motors Corp. (GM) vowed Tuesday [24 October] to begin recruiting automobile dealers affiliated with major Japanese carmakers to give GM vehicles greater exposure to Japanese consumers but ruled out severing the company's 80-year link with Yanase and Co., a major car importer-distributor.

GM President John Smith told a news conference in Tokyo that "dealerships connected with Japanese automakers are available" for franchise agreements to display GM models in their showrooms as a result of the June 28 Japan-U.S. auto trade accord.

GM will no longer depend solely on Yanase to build up a sizable presence in the Japanese market, said Smith, who is in Tokyo to attend the 31st Tokyo motor show starting Friday at the Makuhari Messe Convention Center east of Tokyo.

However, Smith said, GM perceives its tie with Yanase as an "advantage" in view of Yanase's ability to market a certain number of GM vehicles, including those made by GM's wholly owned German subsidiary Opel AG.

GM Executive Vice President Louis Hughes told the same news conference, "we want significantly more dealers, but we have to go step by step."

Hughes acknowledged GM's efforts to recruit more dealers, saying, "we are talking to a variety of candidates."

Smith expressed displeasure with the earnings performance of GM in the Japanese market and its share ranking in the imported car market, where the U.S. titan ranks second to BMW-Rover Group of Europe.

GM's strategy of seeking to garner the top position, he said, will include the planned launching of a 1.9-liter Saturn subcompact car and the introduction of right-hand drive cavalier cars in January to be marketed through a web of more than 1,000 Toyota Motor Corp.-affiliated dealers with a Toyota badge.

He noted that Cavalier is the only right-hand drive model GM produced at its North American factories for sale in Japan.

Hughes and Smith rejected suggestions that GM may not be serious enough in trying to infiltrate the Japanese market due to the scarcity of right-hand drive models built in North America.

Hughes noted that the entire Opel lineup of models made at the German subsidiary provide right-hand drive options.

GM now provides more than 20 right-hand drive models to the Japanese market, including Opel's Astra, Vectora, Omega, Calibra and Tigra sedans, coupes and station wagons, Hughes said.

"We do not have a shortage of right-hand drive models," he said.

Vehicle Output Drops in First Half of FY95

OW2410055095 Tokyo KYODO in English 0525 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Japan's domestic production of cars, trucks and buses during the April-September period was 4,931,815 units, down 3.6 percent from the same period last year, marking the fifth straight decline in the first half of a fiscal year, an industry association said Tuesday [24 October].

Motor vehicle output rose in the latter half of fiscal 1994, from last October to this March, for the first time in eight six-month periods.

But the figures in the latest reporting period represent another turnaround and decline, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said.

It said passenger car production during the first half of the current year totaled 3,647,374 units, down 2.8 percent from the same period the year before.

Output of trucks was 1,262,695 units, off 5.9 percent, and of buses 21,746 units, a fall of 11.7 percent, the association said.

Meanwhile, domestic vehicle sales during the period increased 2.6 percent from the same period the year before to a total of 3,277,570.

Passenger car sales increased 3.0 percent to 2,100,340, and those in trucks 2.0 percent to 168,239, and buses 1.1 percent to 8,991.

Exports fell about 16.0 percent, the association added.

The association said motor vehicle output in September alone totaled 859,972 units, down 10.9 percent from the same month of the previous year.

September marks the fourth consecutive month of year-on-year decline.

Output of passenger cars fell 9.1 percent to 639,167 for the fourth straight month of drop, truck output slumped 15.6 percent to 216,848, and buses fell 12.3 percent to 3,957.

Total domestic sales for the month came to 633,082 units, up 2.0 percent over September last year, with sales of passenger cars at 407,725, up 5.1 percent, trucks at 224,108, down 2.9 percent, and buses at 1,249, down 31.5 percent.

Food Imports Soar in First Half of 1995

OW2410105995 Tokyo KYODO in English
0954 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Japan's food imports in the first six months of this year climbed 11.5 percent over the same period last year to $25.03 billion, a semigovernmental trade organization reported Tuesday [24 October].

The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) said the growth rate was smaller than 17.9 percent recorded in the first six months of last year, however, because of a sharp decline in grain imports.

Japan imported about 2 million tons of rice on an emergency basis last year to make up for a supply shortage caused by one of the worst harvests in postwar Japan.

The organization said food imports accounted for 15.3 percent of Japan's total imports for the six-month period, down 2.4 percentage points from a year earlier.

Overall imports increased 28.5 percent, it said.

The organization said imports of fish and marine products surged 20.9 percent to $8.62 billion, accounting for a-third of total food imports.

Imports of meat and processed meat climbed 24.2 percent to $4,522 million, it said.

In contrast, the organization said grain imports plunged 29 percent to $2.68 billion while imports of edible oil seeds inched down 1 percent to $1.16 billion.

Murayama Backs Takemura's Leading New Party

OW2210074295 Tokyo KYODO in English
0704 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 22 KYODO — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama on Saturday [21 October] called Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura a "strong" candidate for leadership of a new party which his Social Democratic Party (SDP) plans to launch.

"Considering his age and ability he could make a good party leader. I think he is a strong candidate," Murayama told reporters referring to Takemura, head of New Party Sakigake, the smallest partner in the three-party coalition government.

Murayama is currently in New York for the United Nations' 50th anniversary celebrations.

He also indirectly criticized SDP Secretary General Wataru Kubo for pressing ahead with plans to found the new party in early November, saying "this is not something that can be accomplished by fixing a schedule."

"We have to deepen our relationship (with Sakigake)," Murayama said in cautioning against making hasty decisions that would leave out minority forces in both parties.

"The founding of the party will be meaningless if we rush things and fail to build substance," he said.

While noting that policy-wise there are no big differences between the SDP and its prospective merger partner, Murayama said that enthusiasm for the venture varies even among its supporters.

"We have to make efforts to become an entity both in name and in reality," he said.

The SDP decided in September to form a new party rallying liberal forces to restore its floundering popularity and compete with the two biggest conservative parties — the Liberal Democratic Party, the coalition's largest component, and the main opposition Shinshinto (New Frontier Party).

Originally planned for late this month, the founding of the new party has been delayed partly due to wrangling over the new party's direction.

On Saturday, Takemura reiterated his interest in the merger provided that it preserves Sakigake's "ideas and basic policy."

Kubo Seeks Sakigake Initiative for New Party

OW2410085195 Tokyo KYODO in English
0818 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 24 KYODO — Social Democratic Party (SDP) [of Japan; SDPJ] Secretary General Wataru Kubo has reiterated his call for coalition partner New Party Sakigake to take the lead in forming a new party, SDP sources said Tuesday [24 October].

The No. 2 man in Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's party made the appeal in a meeting Monday night with

Sakigake chief Masayoshi Takemura, they said. The SDP and Sakigake, together with the Liberal Democratic Party, form the tripartite ruling coalition.

Kubo made similar calls Sunday when he met several prominent liberal politicians, including senior Sakigake member Yukio Hatoyama and former Hokkaido Gov. Takahiro Yokomichi.

The Kubo-Takemura meeting comes at a time when the SDP is trying to change itself into a new party by early November in order to better contest the next general election.

Sakigake, however, has been cautious about unconditionally joining an SDP-initiated move toward forming such a party.

Takemura himself said at a symposium Saturday, "It is Sakigake's consensus that (the party) will make a new start if we can stick to our ideas and a basic policy."

A source close to Kubo said the latest series of meetings between him and possible participants in the new party is designed to get a decision on whether the early November target has to be postponed.

"These were designed to get a decision on whether the running train must be halted temporarily," the source said.

Kubo is planning to form the new party by the end of November at the latest even if Sakigake does not take part, the source noted.

Hatoyama Urges Caution on Forming New Party

OW2310121595 Tokyo KYODO in English
1117 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tokyo, Oct. 23 KYODO — Yukio Hatoyama, secretary general of New Party Sakigake, said Monday [23 October] many of his party's supporters "fear" a proposed merger between his party and the Social Democratic Party (SDP) despite a proposal that Sakigake leader Masayoshi Takemura could serve as head of the planned party.

Hatoyama told a panel discussion at a Tokyo hotel, "the argument that if Takemura is the head, our party would agree and we can get together with the SDP this year, is not at this point a simple matter."

"Our supporters have a great fear of joining up with any SDP-like matters," Hatoyama said.

"I want the nation to know what aspects of its past the SDP values, and what it can epitomize...after that, we can create a venue for putting our ideas together," he said.

Sakigake is the smallest component in the three-party governing coalition, together with the SDP and the Liberal Democratic Party.

Hatoyama also said any proposed merger should take place in advance of the next general elections so that any new party can be clearly assessed by voters as a third political force.

Takemura, finance minister in the Murayama cabinet, has been preparing to create a new party with the SDP by holding talks with Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, who is also SDP chairman, as well as with leaders of labor unions which support the SDP.

North Korea

Second KEDO Team Arrives for LWR Survey

SK2410152495 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1518 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — The second team of the U.S.-led Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organisation (KEDO) came here today to survey the site of light water reactors [LWR] to be built under the DPRK-U.S. framework agreement.

'Early' Disarmament Urged for Global Peace

SK2410052895 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0520 GMT 24 Oct 95

["Early Disarmament Called For" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — Papers here today carry articles calling for an early disarmament in the week of disarmament.

The week of disarmament which begins on Tuesday worldwide reflects the desire and aspirations of the peaceloving people of the world to live in a peaceful world free from aggression and war.

NODONG SINMUN in a signed article headlined "Disarmament Should Be Realised at an Early Date" says that the week of disarmament is of great importance in consolidating global peace and security and stepping up an international movement for peace against war and nuke.

The paper further says:

There are a huge amount of combat equipment including nuclear weapons on the earth, and imperialists have bases for their overseas aggression in different parts of the world.

While still pursuing the policy of strength behind the facade of "disarmament" and "detente", the imperialists are putting spurs to arms buildup and the modernisation of their armed forces. Notably, having dreamt of one day becoming a military power, a nuclear power, the Japanese reactionaries have systematically increased military expenditure sharply and strengthened the "Self-Defence Forces".

All this clearly shows that without disarmament it is impossible to extricate humankind from a possible nuclear holocaust any time and achieve development in a peaceful world.

What is important for disarmament is to give priority to dismantling nuclear weapons. The nuclear arms on the earth are a source of a nuclear war.

Disarmament should be general and comprehensive.

Establishing a nuclear-free, peace zone and increasing its scope steadily is an important way of arms reduction.

It is necessary to bring an early disarmament to a region with the greatest danger of war, nuclear war.

It is Northeast Asia, including the Korean peninsula, that has the largest number of nuclear weapons and gets the greatest danger of war.

Disarmament requires the unity among all peaceloving people of the world and their energetic concerted efforts.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea fully supports their efforts for the removal of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons, universal, comprehensive and complete disarmament and the establishment of a nuclear-free, peace zone. The Korean people will in the future, too, work hard for worldwide disarmament in firm unity with them.

Paper Demands U.S. Form New Peace Mechanism

SK2410111395 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1027 GMT 24 Oct 95

["Clumsy and Crude Anti-DPRK Plot" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — MINJU CHOSON today comments on a row kicked up by the United States and the South Korean puppets with a fabricated anti-DPRK smear case that they alleged the North "infiltrated an armed spy".

Noting that the case is a cock-and-bull plot fabricated by the United States and the South Korean puppets as occasion demands, the commentary says:

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have faked up such a shocking anti-DPRK smear case as "infiltration of an armed spy" in a bid to dampen the struggle for punishment of those responsible for the May 18 Kwangju massacre and the pro-North reunification spirit that is growing among the South Korean people and justify their provocative war exercises against the North.

They are foolishly scheming to use the faked-up case as a "shock medicine" in reviving the obsolete armistice mechanism that has been reduced to a mere name.

Whatever clumsy and crude "case" the master and stooge may cook up, nobody in the world will be fooled by it.

The United States had better accede to the North's proposal for establishing [a] new peace-keeping mechanism with a sincere attitude, not making itself a laughing-stock while directing the third-rate drama.

The Kim Yong-sam group, who is running amok to bridge over its ruling crisis with a fabricated anti-DPRK plot in league with outside forces, is destined to meet shameful destruction.

Paper: U.S. Should Clarify Its Stand on Ties

SK2410101895 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1004 GMT 24 Oct 95

["The U.S. Should Clarify Its Stand" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — The United States should clarify its position towards the implementation of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework, says NODONG SINMUN today in a signed commentary on the large-scale "Foal Eagle 95" joint military exercise the United States has been staging with the South Korean authorities.

Last year the United States committed itself to stopping all the hostile acts against the DPRK and improving relations, and declared at home and abroad it would stop the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

If the United States is interested in the implementation of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework, there is no need to stage this aggressive "Foal Eagle 95" joint military exercise, the paper notes, and goes on:

The point is that the United States will implement the agreed framework or take the road of military confrontation with the DPRK. The "Foal Eagle 95" is, in essence, a replica of the "Team Spirit".

The "Team Spirit", a preliminary war, a nuclear test war against the DPRK, was aimed at stifling us by force of arms. The current military exercise is little different from it.

These days the United States is tightening its military tieup with Japan and the South Korean authorities more than ever before and debating on "involvement in a possible Korean war" in an aim to stifle the DPRK by force of arms.

The DPRK-U.S. agreed framework is at the stage of implementation. At this time, the United States is staging military maneuverings against the DPRK, ignoring its spirit.

The U.S. authorities are oftenly [as received] giving lip service to "peace" on the Korean Peninsula, "settlement of the nuclear issue" and "improvement of the DPRK-U.S. relations". But behind the scene they are levelling guns at us. How can we believe the United States?

It is high time that the United States clarified its position towards the implementation of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework.

U.S. 'Trying To Crush Us'

SK2410145795 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1222 GMT 24 Oct 95

[NODONG SINMUN 24 October commentary: "The United States Should Clarify Its Position"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The U.S. military oppressive commotion opposing us is becoming increasingly more open. As has already been reported, along with the South Korean puppets the United States is staging the large-scale "Foal Eagle-95" joint military exercise.

Last year the United States promised to stop all hostile acts opposing us and move toward improving relations, and it declared at home and abroad that it would stop the Team Spirit joint military exercise.

If the United States is interested in implementation of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework, there is no need to stage an aggressive joint military exercise like "Foal Eagle-95." The problem lies in whether the United States will implement the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework, or whether it will take the road of military confrontation with us by not implementing it.

The "Foal Eagle-95" joint military exercise is, in essence, a repeat of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise. The "Team Spirit" joint military exercise was a preliminary war and a nuclear test war opposing us. Its aim was clearly to crush us militarily. Every time this joint military exercise was held, an extremely tense situation was created on the Korean peninsula and the danger that a war might break out at any time was created. The current military exercise is no different from this.

In this military exercise, which is being held for over a month, some 30,000 soldiers from the U.S. mainland and U.S. soldiers in South Korea, as well as most of the South Korean puppet army, have been mobilized, and much up-to-date war equipment including nuclear powered submarines, naval destroyers, and landing ships and craft affiliated with the U.S. imperialists' Seventh Fleet are being committed.

This proves that the attempt by the United States to crush us militarily has not changed at all yesterday or today. If something has changed, apart from the past, it is that the United States is trying to crush us from behind the smokescreen of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework.

These days the United States is strengthening its military collusion with Japan and the South Korean puppets more than ever before, and the reason it is discussing the issue of intervention in the Korean war is to crush us militarily. To achieve this, the United States is even infringing upon the spirit of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework.

It is stipulated in the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework that the United States will not use nuclear weapons and that it will not threaten us with nuclear weapons. Nevertheless, the United States has even broken this promise and is trying to threaten us militarily and with nuclear weapons.

Up until now, the military exercises held by the United States in South Korea were all war exercises in which enormous amounts of nuclear weapons were mobilized. The "Foal Eagle-95" joint military exercise is by no means an exception.

Currently, the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework is at the stage of implementation. Right now the United States is staging anti-republic military commotions by even trampling the spirit of this agreement. Considering the fact that it is possible for the United States to bring about an unexpected grave incident, we cannot but deal with this matter with vigilance.

The U.S. authorities often talk about peace on the Korean peninsula, settlement of the nuclear issue, improvement of DPRK-U.S. relations, and so on. However, behind the scenes they are leveling guns at us. What the United States says while facing us is different, and what it does behind our backs is different. How can we believe the United States?

It is high time that the United States clarify its position related to implementation of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework. The United States must throw away the foolish fantasy of trying to crush our Republic militarily.

U.S.-ROK 17-19 Oct Military Activity Viewed

*SK2110050595 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0436 GMT 21 Oct 95*

["Unending War Exercises Against North" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 21 (KCNA) — The South Korean puppets staged an air war exercise in the skies above Wonju, Chunchon and Oeyon Islet on October 19 with hundreds of fighter planes, according to military sources.

They are now frantically staging the provocative "Foal Eagle 95" war game with the U.S. imperialist .

On the same day, the puppets mobilized armed helicopters in an air strike exercise in the astern sector of the front and fired as many as 100 shells and 1,000 large-calibre machine-gun and automatic-rifle bullets toward the Demilitarized Zone and its surrounding areas in the western and central sectors of the front.

On the 17th and 18th, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged large-scale joint air war exercise against the North in the skies above Paeka and Tokjok Islets and Wonju with the mobilisation of hundreds of fighter planes. Over 20 transport planes which made a sortie in the Pacific bases airlifted huge lethal facilities to the U.S. Air Force base in South Korea.

On the 18th, an RC-135 strategic reconnaissance plane made a flight for an electronic and photographing espionage on all areas of the North.

A total of 1,500, military planes participated in the war exercises in the skies above South Korea on October 17 and 18.

Military Exercise Fuels 'Hostile' Relations

*SK[illegible]023495 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean
1222 GMT 20 Oct 95*

[NODONG SINMUN 20 October commentary: "Where Are They Leading the Situation To?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States' maneuver to provoke a new war is further straining the situation of the Korean peninsula. Recently, the United States tried to sell massive modern weapons to South Korea, and now it is conducting the Eagle-95 joint military exercise. The United States' arms buildup maneuver and large-scale war exercises in South Korea stem from its hostile policy against the DPRK. This shows that the United States is foolish to still rely on strength in relations with us.

The United States advocates peace on the Korean peninsula, the resolution of the nuclear issue, and the improvement of DPRK-U.S. relations. If this is true, the United States should show its commitment in its actions. However, the United States continues pursuing military confrontation with us and tries to crush us with force, contrary to what it advocates. The over month-long Eagle-95 joint military exercise is a replica of the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise for northward aggression. This fact is proven by the size of forces mobilized and the nature and contents of the exercise.

The Eagle-95 joint military exercise which is being committed according to the United States' Korean war plan is a grave military provocation, threat, and blackmail against our Republic. The exercise is also an undisguised betrayal of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework. The Eagle-95 joint military exercise indisputably aggravates military confrontation and amplifies war risk on the Korean peninsula. The Korean peninsula is in an armistice situation, and the DPRK and the United States remain in hostile relations. Under such a condition, it is very dangerous for the United States to strengthen its anti-Republic military frenzy.

In order to change the armistice situation into peace on the Korean peninsula and alleviate hostile relations between the DPRK and the United States, the United States should stop its reckless military actions, including arms buildup and war commotions aiming at a northward aggression in South Korea, and should respond to the proposal to establish a new peace-guaranteeing system. This is imperative to a successful implementation of the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework.

The United States promised not to threaten us with force and not to make aggression. However, the United States broke faith with us and is exercising a strong-arm policy on its dialogue partner. The United States is trying to maintain forever the old armistice system, a relic of the Cold War era, and militarily crush us and rule the entire Korea. This only exposes the fact in front of the entire world that the United States' aggressive and bellicose nature has not changed.

If the United States continues with arms buildup and war commotion in South Korea, it will result in a complicated situation. In other words, hostile relations between the DPRK and the United States may worsen and the resolution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula may face a great obstacle. As long as the United States enforces its hostile policy against the DPRK, it will be difficult to expect solid peace on the Korean peninsula, trust between the DPRK and the United States, and the alleviation of hostile relations.

Of course, we do not want the DPRK-U.S. hostile relations to continue and worsen. We hope the DPRK-U.S. agreed framework will be smoothly implemented on the right track and arrive at its goal. However, we cannot allow the United States to continue to try to harm us with its anti-Republic military frenzy. It is a mistake and fancy to try to crush us with strong arms. We have the strength and will to counter the United States' military adventure. The United States had better not miscalculate us. The United States should remember that it will have a bitter experience if it overestimates itself or underestimates us and act without discretion. The United States should stop its hostile and crush policy against the DPRK.

Commentary Denounces ROK Hwarang 'War Exercise'

SK2410031095 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1223 GMT 23 Oct 95

[Commentary by Yun Pyong-son: "At What Are the War Commotions Aimed?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] South Korea began to stage new war exercise for northward invasion named Hwarang on 23 October. All the forces of puppet organs, the puppet armed forces, the local reserve forces, the civil defense corps, and the puppet police will reportedly participate in the war exercise, which will last until 1 December mainly in South and North Cholla Provinces, Cheju Island, and Kwangju.

This new fire game is aimed at driving the situation of the Korean peninsula to the brink of war and instigates the fiery indignation of all the fellow countrymen who desire peace and peaceful reunification.

As everyone knows, South Korea has frantically been conducting the Foal Eagle-95 joint military exercise, a replica of the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise, since 10 days ago. While the U.S. occupation forces in South Korea and the puppet armed forces assume a combat alertness posture, aggression troops and war equipment are being brought in South Korea from the U.S. mainland and U.S. military bases in the Pacific area, and battleships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet are also rushing into the waters of the Korean peninsula.

Meanwhile, the puppet armed forces have been concentrated along the Military Demarcation Line, and the rascals' military provocations are being committed all the more gravely. As a result, the situation of the Korean peninsula has been driven to a dangerous phase of war, and peace and security is exposed to a grave threat.

Under this situation, the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique is conducting the Hwarang war exercise by mobilizing huge armed forces, and booming cannonades. This is an intolerable challenge and provocation to our people and the peace-loving people of the world.

It is the Kim Yong-sam clique's invariable ambition of aggression to provoke a war of northward invasion in collusion with outside forces and achieve reunification by defeating communism. To this end, the puppets have accelerated preparations for war since long ago by bringing updated war equipment from foreign countries in large quantities, by increasing their domestic munitions production, and by conducting a war exercise constantly.

The Kim Yong-sam ring intends to complete its war preparations, accelerated up to the present, by carrying out the Hwarang war exercise. This is proved by the fact that, while announcing the inception of the Hwarang war exercise, the puppets stated that the purpose of this exercise is to increase their operations capability and to establish a general war posture of the civil forces.

However, this is not the only purpose that the Kim Yong-sam ring is pursuing through the Hwarang war exercise.

A struggle for the punishment of the murderers involved ?l?k???ay [1980] Kwangju incident is now vigorously being carried in South Korea. The struggle has been expanded as an all-people struggle involving schools, law circles, religious circles, and dissident organizations, and they have been directing their criticism at the Kim Yong-sam ring that protects and backs the murderers involved in the Kwangju incident.

The Kim Yong-sam ring are now faced with a dead-end situation. Thus, the puppets have begun the Hwarang war exercise with the hidden purpose of diverting the South Korean people's attention on them to something else in order to weaken the rapidly escalating struggle of the South Korean people for the punishment of the murderers involved in the Kwangju incident, by employing a stereotypical means.

Even before the conclusion of a war exercise, the Kim Yong-sam ring have begun to stage another war exercise, threatening their fellow countrymen. The Kim Yong-sam ring are vicious national traitors and peerless war maniacs who have no regard for peace or reunification. With these warmongers left to their own devices, we cannot think of peaceful reunification of the country, nor can our nation avoid the danger of war.

The criminal maneuver by the traitorous Kim Yong-sam clique which pursues confrontation and war and runs counter to the people's aspiration and the trends of the time, cannot be allowed. The Kim Yong-sam ring should act discreetly, being clearly aware that they will be dealt a deadly blow and their bones will be broken if they attempt to break the deadlock through confrontation with their fellow countrymen.

Paper Denounces 'Criminal' 'Hwarang' Exercise

SK2410053495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0525 GMT 24 Oct 95

["War Game Increasing Tension" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — NODONG SINMUN today comments on the "Hwarang" military exercise the Kim Yong-sam group of South Korea started on October 23, while staging the aggressive joint manoeuvres codenamed "Foal Eagle 95."

The criminal purpose of the exercise, which will continue until December 1 with the mobilization of all the puppet organs, army, police, "reserve force" and "civilian defense corps," is to increase the operational capacity in war time and peace time and establish a coordinated war posture of "civilian-government forces" in all areas.

The "Hwarang" exercise, as the provocative "Foal Eagle 95" joint manoeuvres with U.S. troops are, is a criminal act against the Korean nation's ardent desire for the country's peace and peaceful reunification and part of undisguised belligerent moves to endanger peace in the Korean peninsula and threaten and stifle the North by force of arms, the paper says, and continues:

The Kim Yong-sam's is a group of warmaniacs and traitors who seek to "unify the country by invading the North," clean indifferent to the peace of the country and the destiny of the nation.

The United States, breaking its promise not to stage the "Team Spirit" joint war exercises this year, started the "Foal Eagle 95" little different from the "Team Spirit," thus rendering the situation strained. Such perfidious act of the U.S. has undermined the DPRK-U.S. framework agreement calling for joint efforts for the peace and security of the Korean peninsula.

Our people and army do not want a war, but they are never afraid of it. It is their spirit to sternly punish the provokers.

ROK Announces Anti-Infiltration Training

SK2410050295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 24 Oct 95

["S. Korean Puppets Announce Provocative '95 Combined Training Against Infiltration'" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — The South Korean puppets announced that they will stage a provocative military exercise code-named "95 Combined Training Against Infiltration" in the whole area of Seoul from October 23 to mid-November, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The exercise will be reportedly staged jointly by "civilians, government and army", involved in by all puppet state organs, the puppet army, "reserve forces" and "civilian defense corps".

Comments on Captured ROK Usong-86 Fishermen

SK2110104495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 21 Oct 95

["NODONG SINMUN on Settling Question of Ship '86 Usong' by DPRK Law" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA) — The Kim Yong-sam group are imprudently slinging mud at the North with outcries over the "release" of crewmen of the ship "86 Usong". This is a nonsense and a provocation against the North.

NODONG SINMUN says this in a commentary today.

As reported, "86 Usong" belonging to the Usong Fishery Station of Inchon, South Korea, which illegally intruded deep into the western territorial waters of the North side on May 30, took a reckless act when a patrol boat on the navy of the Korean People's Army sailed for control [as received], and it was captured while trying to flee after running into the North's patrol boat.

The news analyst says: according to the confessions of the crewmen, the whole course of the illegal intrusion into the territorial waters of the North side by "86 Usong" and its flight was wirelessly directed by a warship of the puppet navy and marine police of South Korea. It has been proved, therefore, that "86 Usong," which illegally intruded into the territorial waters of our side, and the South Korean puppets, who directed its illegal acts, are entirely to blame for the case.

The crewmen of the captured "86 Usong" admitted in a press conference on September 25 that all the crimes were committed by them under the command of the puppet authorities.

The criminal act of the ship "86 Usong," which intruded deep into the territorial waters of the DPRK, cannot be tolerated. Accordingly, the question of "86 Usong" must be dealt with by the law of the DPRK.

The Kim Yong-sam group must apologize for their criminal act in aggravating confrontation and rendering the inter-Korean relations to a worst state through the case of "86 Usong" and hold responsibility for it.

We will settle the question of "86 Usong" by the law of the DPRK.

Crewmen's Testimony Related

SK2110100995 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0855 GMT 21 Oct 95

[Commentary from 21 October NODONG SINMUN: "Far-Fetched Remarks"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Recently, the Kim Yong-sam ring has viciously waged an anti-Republic confrontation commotion, opposing us more than ever before. During such a time, they have made far-fetched remarks about the release of the seamen of the Usong-86.

Of course, we do not feel the need to distinguish right from wrong as regards every single remark of the puppets, who cannot restrain from making absurd remarks more than hundred times a day. However, we can not overlook the fact that they are running amok in anti-Republic confrontation commotions, brazenly heaping abuse on us over the issue of the Usong-86.

As has already been reported, on 30 May a naval patrol boat of our heroic Korean People's Army [KPA] captured an unidentified boat that illegally intruded deep into our territorial waters on the West Sea [Yellow Sea].

According to the results of the relevant agency's investigation, the captured unidentified boat was the Usong-86, belonging to Usong Fisheries Company in Inchon, South Korea. At that time, the Usong- 86 illegally intruded into our territorial waters on the West Sea at 30 seconds, 37 minutes, 38 degrees North latitude and 30 seconds, 51 minutes, 124 degrees East longitude, a location 4.5 nautical miles from the northern tip of Chodo.

As the KPA naval patrol boat began to capture the Usong-86, it tried to escape. Even though our naval patrol boat repeatedly issued stop signals, the boat did not respond to these signals. Therefore, we fired warning shots. However, the boat behaved recklessly, obstinately trying to escape from our approach, and finally attempted to escape by colliding with our patrol boat. Under such circumstances, our naval patrol boat was compelled to take self-defensive measures.

As a result, the unidentified boat was captured at sea at 40 seconds, 20 minutes, 38 degrees North Latitude and 35 seconds, 23 minutes, 124 degrees East longitude, a location 20.8 nautical miles north of the Maritime Demarcation Line. During this process, the ship was damaged and some aboard were killed and wounded.

According to the crewmen's testimony, the Usong-86 was under the radio command of South Korean puppet naval warships and the maritime police during the entire illegal infiltration into our territorial waters and during its flight. This proves that the Usong-86, which illegally infiltrated into our territorial waters, and the South Korean puppets, who commanded this illegal act, are fully responsible for this incident.

During the 25 September news conference, the crewmen of the captured Usong-86 admitted they committed all these crimes under the command of the puppet authorities. They expressed their sincere thanks to our Republic, which is showing them leniency and treating them with compatriotic love, even though they committed indelible crimes. This is the true state of affairs.

We are resolute [tanhohada] against anyone who illegally infiltrates even an inch into our sacred territorial waters. The crimes of the Usong-86, which infiltrated deep into our Republic's territorial waters, are intolerable. Therefore, as a matter of course, the Usong-86 problem must be handled according to the law of our Republic [ttaraso palsimnyuk usongho munjenun maddanghui urigonggwagugui pobeddara choridoeoya handa].

Nevertheless, the Kim Yong-sam ring dares to point its finger at us, talking about their release. This is unreasonable fault-finding and a provocation against us.

Those who commit crimes should apologize and pay for their crimes.

The Kim Yong-sam ring must apologize for their crime of fabricating the Usong-86 incident, thus further intensifying confrontation and bringing North-South relations to the worst phase, and should take responsibility for this.

We again say we will handle and solve the Usong-86 problem according to the law of our Republic [kodup marhagondae urinun palsimnyuk usongho munjerul uri konghwagugui pobeddara chori haegyol halgossida].

South Korean 'Defector' Holds News Conference

SK2410045795 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0428 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 23 (KCNA) — A South Korean youth, Han Hyo-su, who defected to the North across the Military Demarcation Line some time ago, called a press conference here today.

Before defection, the young man 24, was sergeant first class as deputy leader of the Fourth Platoon, Third Company, Search Battalion of the 25th Division of the South Korean puppet army.

After graduating from middle and high school in Sunchon, South Cholla Province, he worked in the field of construction for about a year and served in the "ROK Army" from 1990.

His father, sister and brothers remain in South Korea.

He told newsmen that he decided to defect to the North because he could no longer endure misfortune and humiliation in South Korean society.

During his service in the army on the front area, he listened to radio broadcast by the North, he said, adding: "In the course of this, I came to know the North is a good society where the working masses like us are under good government, as is quite different from the 'anti-communist' propaganda of the South Korean rulers."

"I wanted to be a soldier of General Kim Chong-il, an ever- victorious iron-willed brilliant commander, and a serviceman for the motherland and the working masses," he added.

Turning to the situation of the "ROK Army," the defector said:

"Respected and reverence for General Kim Chong-il are growing deeper among 'ROK Army' soldiers. They form many patriotic organisation and make activities to implement his reunification policy.

"War exercises against the North have been more undisguised since Kim Yong-sam took office. If Kim Yong-sam unleashes a war against the North, he will be burned to death in the flames he kindled."

Giving his impressions of the North of Korea, the defector told newsmen what impressed him most is that the soldiers serve in the army under the warm care of the great General Kim Chong-il.

"Witnessing the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea, I could clearly understand that respected General Kim Chong-il is the greatest of generals and the army of the North led by him is the strongest army in the world," Han Hyo-su told reporters.

ROK Reverence for Kim Chong-il 'Deepening'

SK2410113995 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1023 GMT 24 Oct 95

["Leader Kim Chong-il Is the Greatest Statesman" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — Intellectuals of South Korea are deepening feelings of reverence for the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, according to Seoul based radio Voice of National Salvation quoting informations of different regional committees of the National Democratic Front of South Korea (NDFSK).

According to the information of the Pusan City Committee of the NDFSK, a certain Kim, professor of politics at Pusan University, said in a lecture on political situation sponsored by activists of the labor movement in Masan and Changwon as follows:

"The politics of independence administered by President Kim Il- song in the North is shining more brightly by the leader Kim Chong- il.

"The singlehearted unity of the party and popular masses established by him is a noteworthy event that opened a new chapter in the history of politics.

"The politics of independence is the highest peak of politics and the leader Kim Chong-il, who is developing, enriching and successfully applying the theory of the politics of independence, is the greatest statesman in the world."

The information of the Taegu City Committee of the NDFSK quoted Dr. Sin and Prof. Han as saying at a meeting of professors and scholars in Taegu held in early October on the occasion of the 50th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea:

"Inscribed in the emblem of the WPK are a hammer and a sickle as well as a brush which means intellectuals.

"Indeed, the emblem of the WPK shines as a symbol of the great all-embracing politics of President Kim Il-song and General Kim Chong-il.

"The position of intellectuals has never been so high as in the North.

"General Kim Chong-il is, indeed, a great teacher and benevolent father who is leading intellectuals to the true road of intelligence for the motherland and the nation with his all-embracing love."

According to the information of the Seoul City Committee of the NDFSK, Prof. Choe of the Seoul National University said at a meeting of members of the Paektu Society on Oct. 5:

"If the leader is great, the party is great.

"The WPK is now exalting its might as an ever-victorious powerful party because it holds the great General Kim Chong-il, who is respected by the world people, at the head of the party.

"The WPK holding the leader Kim Chong-il in high esteem will be ever-victorious however worse the globe may change and whatever trial may come across."

South Korean Writes Poem Praising Kim Chong-il

OW2110033895 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1514 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 20 (KCNA) — Yu Hak- chol, a member of the "Society of the Sun", an underground, patriotic organisation of the followers of the great Kimilsongism in South Korea, wrote "Song of the Sun," a lengthy poem to General Kim Chong-il, the leader of the nation.

The poem sent to the editorial board of the NODONG SINMUN newspaper office was created around the 50th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The poem sings of the earnest desire of the South Koreans to uphold and follow the great leader General Kim Chong-il, who has the same idea, leadership ability and virtues as the great leader President Kim Il-song had, as the eternal sun of the 70 million Korean people.

It was the great General Kim Chong-il who became the sun as brighter as ever and took warm care of all the people overwhelmed with the grief at the loss of President Kim Il-soung, the poem says, and goes on:

General Kim Chong-il looks far ahead into the future in a moment, looks round the planet in a moment, knows everything like the palm of his hand and sets all people in motion with a word. Once the rays of his wisdom reaches the dark land, the thick darkness will be expelled and glow of truth will set over the valley in dusk.

North korea draws together all people with the love for the people, turns a large country into a small one and makes a powerful country a weak one by the strength of ideology and singlehearted unity and brings into bloom ethics and morality with which one devotes one's all to others. This land is an ideal land of humankind, the most powerful country in the world.

Korea of Kim Il-soung and of Kim Chong-il, a land blessed with illustrious leaders, will be everlasting as the homeland of the sun and sunrays.

General Kim Chong-il is the sun of the 21st century, who stands in the centre of history and is blazing the trail of a new world, indicating the road ahead of the times.

In conclusion, the poem sings of the unshakable faith of the South Korean people to uphold General Kim Chong-il as heaven of the Tangun nation, president of a reunified Korea and the greatest leader in the world and fight it out for national reunification.

CILRECO Publishes Special Issue of Bulletin

OW2110022395 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1508 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 20 (KCNA) — The Secretariat of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea (CILRECO) published a special issue of bulletin on the occasion of the month for support to the proposal to found the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK].

The bulletin edited articles titled "Most Realistic Way for Reunification of Korea is Confederacy Formula," "Broad Masses of Korean People in the North, South and Overseas Fully Support Reunification Through Confederacy Formula", "Let Us More Vigorously Launch International Solidarity Movement in the Month for Support to the Proposal to Found the DCRK" and so on.

In the article "Most Realistic Way for Reunification of Korea is Confederacy Formula" the bulletin said: "It is a historical exploit of respected Comrade Kim Il-song that he opened a reliable prospect for reunification by putting forward the proposal to found the DCRK at the 6th congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The proposal for reunification by confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments is a wise proposal which takes into full consideration the realities of the North and South existing for half a century. It is the most realistic and best way of reunification in view of the desire and aspiration of the Korean nation and in view of peace in Asia and security of the world."

In the article "Let Us More Vigorously Launch International Solidarity Movement in the Month for Support to the Proposal to Found the DCRK," the bulletin noted:

"The international solidarity forces for support to the Korea's reunification must lift up voices of support and solidarity so that the Korean nation may realise national reunification, and put pressure on the United States, the United Nations and other parties responsible for the separation of Korea and the solution of the Korean problem and countries concerned to take right attitudes.

"They should strongly demand the repeal of the 'National Security Law' and destruction of the concrete wall and lift up voices of the international solidarity calling for the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea, denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and establishment of a new peace-keeping mechanism."

Religious Groups Denounce Kim Yong-sam Group

SK2110060195 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0457 GMT 21 Oct 95

["Kim Yong-sam Group's Suppression of People Denounced" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 21 (KCNA) — Yu Mi-yong, chairperson of the Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association, and Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Korean Christian Federation, issued statements to the press on Friday.

In the statements they denounced the Kim Yong-sam group's fascist suppression of South Korean people, who are demanding the probe into the truth behind the Kwangju incident and the punishment of the murderers, and of the pro-reunification patriotic figures who visited the northern half of the country.

"In South Korea students and people of broad segments are now protesting against the unreasonable behavior of the Kim Yong-sam fascist clique protecting those responsible for the Kwangju massacre and against their persecution of Presbyter Pak Yong-kil and students Chong Min-chu and Yi Hye-chong who visited the North," Yu Mi-yong said, and declared:

"Their protest is a righteous and just struggle for democratic development of the South Korean society and for the reunification of the country."

"The South Korean authorities, who are trying to punish Presbyter Pak and students Chong and Yi praised by the nation, on charge of the violation of the 'National Security Law' are a group of satans challenging good with evil," she said.

She called upon the South Korean Chondoists to continue their struggle together with people from other walks on life until their demand is met.

Kang Yong-sop said the Kim Yong-sam group are absolving the murderers from crime while imprisoning the reunification champions. "This only reveals that they are the same fascist dictators and vicious separatists as traitors Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u were," he added.

He held that the South Korean authorities should unconditionally accept the just demand of people and stop the suppression of the reunification champions at once.

Organization Demands Release of Pak Yong-kil

SK2110105295 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1039 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 21 (KCNA) — The Secretariat of the Tri-Continental People's Solidarity Organisation sent a letter to the U.N. Human Rights Centre, demanding the release of Mrs. Pak Yong-kil who visited Pyongyang in July last.

The letter said Mrs. Pak Yong-kil is respected and loved by all the Korean people for having visited Pyongyang to participate in the memorial service on the first anniversary of the death of President Kim Il-song and represented the South Korean people fighting for reunification with ardent patriotism.

Noting that the South Korean authorities' arrest of the woman on charge of violating the "National Security Law" soon after her return to South Korea is an act of aggravating the situation of the Korean peninsula and going against the nation's demand for the reunification of the country, the letter called upon the U.N. Human Rights Centre to send principled [words indistinct] the struggle for her release.

The letter urged the South Korean authorities to set her free at an early date.

Commentary Criticizes ROK-Japan Relations

SK2110023095 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean
0854 GMT 19 Oct 95

[NODONG SINMUN 19 October commentary: "Culmination of Making Complaints and Servility"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Recently, relations between the South Korean puppets and Japanese authorities have been characterized by complaints and servility, to the degree that it astonishes people.

The South Korean puppets are raising an uproar and stubbornly persisting that Japan move according to their demands, and the Japanese authorities are being servile and worthless by currying favor with the South Korean puppets.

When viewing that relations between the South Korean puppets and Japan are relations of a cat's paw and master, it seems normal that it should have been the other way around, but it is the complete opposite. This is particularly revealing in dealing with the issue of DPRK-Japan relations.

Some time ago, in an interview with the Japanese paper NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, the puppet traitor Kim Yong-sam said that Japan's effort to make progress in relations with North Korea, before South Korea, is hindering reunification. This is complete stubbornness and preposterous.

Up until now, the South Korean puppets complained to Japan by enumerating all kinds of sophistries so that it cannot improve relations with us in any way. Moreover, now, it is saying to Japan that since it is interfering with reunification, DPRK-Japan relations should not be improved. This means that reunification is possible only when Japan maintains relations with them alone. This jargon can only be used by the South Korean puppets seeking division. Here, the antireunification characteristics of the puppet traitor Kim Yong-sam who is a wicked national separatist, is fully revealed.

DPRK-Japan relations are the question between us and Japan. Therefore, the South Korean puppets have no justification to interfere with it. Nevertheless, the South Korean puppets are persistently complaining to Japan with an eye to poking their nose obtrusively on DPRK-Japan relations so as to slander DPRK-Japan relations. Of course, we are not making a big fuss over the South Korean puppet traitor's act. This is because it is a spiritless rash act by those who turned their back on the country and nation.

However, it is necessary for all the people of the world to know what the wicked and despicable act of the South Korean puppets is pursuing. First of all, the South Korean puppets are challenging, point-blank, the aspiration of our people and the Japanese people and the demand of the time, to maintain their remaining doomed days. To improve DPRK-Japan relations is to liquidate the relics of the old times existing between the two countries and develop good neighborly relations. This is a common demand by the people of the two countries.

Therefore, for the South Korean puppets to oppose progress in DPRK-Japan relations is the same as opposing the aspiration and demand of our people and the Japanese people. As such, the South Korean puppets' act is disregarding not only the intention of our people but also of the Japanese people.

The South Korean puppets committed an unparalleled heinous crime. In 1965, they fabricated the subordinate and humiliating South Korea-Japan agreement which exceeds that of the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty. They are second to none nation sellers in this universe.

If DPRK-Japan relations are improved in essence, such nation selling characters by the South Korean puppets will be once again revealed to the whole world. Here lies one of the reasons for the South Korean puppets to make complaints by grasping the ankles of the Japanese authorities.

From early on, the puppet traitor Kim Yong-sam is a person who refused to be a Korean. For such a person, he does not want the fellow countrymen to make good progress but only works to maintain the rest of his dirty doomed life without weighing the consequences. The problem also lies in the position of the Japanese authorities, who wholly receive their complaints in a positive manner.

The Japanese authorities have dealt for a long time with the DPRK-Japan relations matters in consultation with the South Korean puppets and regularly informed the puppets of their results. The case was seen at the time of the DPRK-Japan talks and is seen these days, too. Recently, Japan said that it would consult with South Korea in connection with the resumption of negotiations between Japan and the DPRK.

It is not certain whether they are considering the position of their stooges or intending to get something from the puppets. Anyhow, we can not but think about the country, Japan, in every way for her meanness. What we can say is that the Japanese authorities have lost self-respect and face.

The Japanese authorities are saying that they will turn Japan into a big political power. If it is to become a big political power, Japan must have independence and its own opinion, and must not go as the wind blows. Nevertheless, the Japanese authorities are carrying out politics by submissively following the words of the spiritless people who are only puppets. Therefore, there is no need to explain what sort of political power they are calling for. It is indeed shameless of Japan to wish to discuss world politics in the international arena.

If we are to weigh the South Korean puppets and the Japanese reactionaries in dealing with the DPRK-Japan relations issue, no one side will be slanted. Thus, the antinational and true nation- selling character of the South Korean puppets will be all the more revealed, and the Japanese reactionaries are not being able to free themselves from the disgrace of a political midget.

Japan's 'Overseas Expansion' Maneuvers Criticized

SK2410072995 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0755 GMT 23 Oct 95

[Unattributed talk: "Japanese Reactionaries' Outright Maneuvers For Overseas Aggression"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Japan has shown more grave military moves recently. The Japanese cabinet is attempting to increase military expenses for its next fical year, which begins from April of next year, by over 2.9 percent.

Recently, the director general of the Defense Agency of Japan stressed the need to push ahead with the modernization of the Self- Defense Forces of Japan, saying that he opposes hasty arms reduction.

As is known, the Defense Agency of Japan has already decided to introduce 48 up-to-date model fighters by 2000. Thus, it is taking such measures as deploying air refueling aircraft, building an aircraft carrier, and developing new type medium-range missiles in an effort to reinforce the arms of the Self-Defence Forces on a large scale.

Under such a situation of accelerating the manuevers for reinforcing the force of arms of the Self-Defense Forces, the Japanese Government has recently decided to establish the so-called peacekeeping office which will train the soldiers of the Self- Defense Forces who are to be dispatched overseas.

On 28 August, the Japanese Government also decided to send troops of the Self-Defense Forces to the Golan Heights in February of next year.

The allegations of threat that Japan clamored about have disappared following the end of the Cold War. Under such a situation, there is no reason or excuse whatsoever for Japan, which possesses strong war capabilities, to accelerate arms reinforcement.

Nevertheless, the Japanese reactionaries are accelerating arms reinforcement. This has something to do with their dark intention. In other words, the Japanese reactionaries are attempting to conquer Asia by force of arms and furthermore to expand the sphere of their domination to the world is precisely the wild ambition that they have long sought.

Now, Japanese reactionaries are unfolding the manuevers to realize such a wild ambition on two fronts. One of them is to complete preparations so that Japan's armed forces can perpetrate their aggression against any region in the world. Under the pretext of improving the quality of the Self-Defense Forces and again reviewing the general defense plan of the Self-Defense Forces, Japanese reactionaries are building an aircraft carrier, deploying air refeuling aircraft, and, at the same time, accelerating the process of arming the Self-Defense Forces with super-high technology and making them long-range and rapid armed forces. This is aimed at strengthening the Self-Defense Forces into armed forces capable of being immediately deployed to any region of the world.

Japan has already designated the world as the operational theater for its armed forces. Based on this, Japan is attempting to strengthen the capability of the Self-Defense Forces so that they can be deployed in any region in the world, at any time.

The other one is to provide legal conditions under which Japan's Self-Defense Forces can conduct operations in any region in the world. Today, many countries in the world oppose the dispatch of military troops to peacekeeping operations in which lives will be sacrificed.

This notwithstanding, Japan is frantic in sending the Self- Defense Forces to the so-called peacekeeping operations. This is not for keeping peace. What Japanese reactionaries are seeking is to make the dispatch overseas of troops of the Self-Defense Forces an established fact under the pretext of keeping peace. Japanese reactionaries' calculate that by doing so, they will be able to send their armed forces of aggression to any region they wish in the world, under the pretext of rescuing Japanese overseas or of protecting Japanese overseas property, thereby realizing their wild ambition for aggression.

Japanese reactionaries' maneuvers for aggression overseas which have become more unscrupulous are seriously threatening the world's peace and security.

In today's realities where Japanese reactionaries are accelerating moves to make their country a big military power and maneuvering for overseas expansion instead of sincerely apologizing for and liquidating their past crimes, we demand that the people of the world keenly realize the dangerous nature of the maneuvers by Japanese reactionaries and check and frustrate them.

Those who set fire are destined to be burned to death. Japanase reactioanaries' manuevers for aggression overseas will only expedite their ruin. Japanese reactionaries should clearly know this and should behave discreetly, learning a lesson from the miserable defeat that they suffered 50 years ago.

Vice President Yi Meets Lao, Yugoslav Delegates

SK2410044795 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0421 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 23 (KCNA) — Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president of the DPRK, on Monday had a friendly talk at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with a delegation of the Control Commission of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] led by Maychantane Sengmany [spelling of name as received], Politburo member of the Central Committee of the LPRP and head of the Central Party-State Control Commission.

The head of the delegation said Korea has given priority to ideological education and thus achieved great success in the efforts to train able men with sound ideology and strengthen the party.

He voiced full support for the line and policies of the WPK and all its efforts for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country.

I came to have a good knowledge of the singlehearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses and of the relations of kinship between the army and people in Korea, and all this is valuable experience for the party and people of Laos, he added.

Also Monday Yi Chong-ok met and conversed with a delegation of science and technology of the Federal Government of Yugoslavia led by Janko Radulovic, minister of development, science and environment.

Russian Duma Holds Korean Reunification Hearing

SK2310221995 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1504 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, October 20 (KCNA) — A hearing on Korea's reunification was held at the building of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on Oct. 19, in the month for support to the proposal to found the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo.

Present there were chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the State Duma Vladimir Lukin, Chairman of its Sub- Committee for Cooperation with International Organisations and Parliaments Aleksandr Zasokhov and other members of the International Affairs Committee who are deputies to the State Duma.

Son Song-pil, Korean ambassador to the Russian Federation, said that the program for national reunification consists of the three principles of reunification, proposal to found a confederal state and the 10-point program for the great unity of the whole nation put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Saying that the proposal for reunification by confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments is the most reasonable and realistic program for reunification, he made clear the reason.

He pointed to the ways to realise reunification by confederacy including the problems of achieving the great unity of the whole nation by repealing the "National Security Law" of South Korea and destroying the concrete wall and of creating peaceful conditions for the foundation of a confederal state by establishing a new peacekeeping mechanism in the Korean Peninsula.

Answers were given to the questions at the hearing.

Vladimir Lukin said that Russia regards Korea's reunification as an internal problem of Korea and that he hopes Korea will be reunified at an early date to put an end to the tragedy of separation.

Aleksandr Zasokhov noted that the Korean problem is directly linked with interests of Russia. He continued:

"I think that the confederacy is the only way of reunification of Korea.

"We Russian communists have supported all the initiatives of the Korean comrades and will stand by them invariably in the future, too."

Foreign Groups Study Kim Chong-il's Work

SK2410045695 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0440 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's famous work "Giving Priority to Ideological Work Is Essential for Accomplishing Socialism" has been disseminated and studied in different countries.

Seminars on the work were sponsored by the Union of Scholars on Human Problem of Present Era at Moscow University and by the "Peace and Today" Committee of Russia in Moscow.

A. Kovalyov, chairman of the union, said in his report that Comrade Kim Chong-il gave a philosophical and scientific explanation to the problem of giving priority to ideological work under the banner of attaching great importance to people and ideology. This is another epochal turn in the development of the theory of socialism and communism and its practice, he noted.

I. Melinikov, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, pointed on the principles and ways of ideological work expounded by Comrade Kim Chong-il and said that the work is of great significance not only for the Workers' Party of Korea but also for other parties. And he stressed that the Communist Party of Soviet Union neglected the ideological work in the past and, therefore, it brought about a corruption of socialism.

Vitaliy Pashenko, professor of the faculty of philosophy of Moscow University, said that the work is entirely just and scientific in view of the present situation of Russia and it is a programme which is most vital not only for the present period but for a bright future of humankind.

A joint seminar on the work was held at the Cultural Centre in Dar-es-Salaam under the sponsorship of the Tanzanian National Coordinating Committee of the Chuche Idea Study Groups, seminars on the work were organized by the Alcantara, Portugal, Group for the Study of Kimilsongism and the Malian National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea, question-and-answer study meeting or group-readings by the Zimbabwean Youth Centre for the Study of Kimilsongism, the Guyana Torchlight Taekwondo Group for the Study of the Chuche Idea of Comrade Kim Il-song and the Barbados Committee for Friendship and Solidarity With the Korean People.

Russian Paper PATRIOT Praises WPK

SK2410045295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 23 (KCNA) — The 41st issue of the Russian paper PATRIOT carried an article titled "Party In Era of Independence" contributed by Vladimir Markov, a member of the Central Committee of the Union of Communists of Russia, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

The article says:

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has appeared to be a beacon showing the way ahead of the people struggling for social and national equality. All revolutionaries around the world should make a deep study of the experiences of the Workers' Party of Korea founded by Comrade Kim Il-song and led by Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Elaborating on the origin of the WPK, the article continues:

The down-with-imperialism union was able to develop into a powerful and vigorous party as Comrade Kim Il-song correctly saw through the truth that freedom and happiness of the people can be found only on the road of socialist revolution and socialist transformation and victory can be achieved only when the people are brought to the threshold of revolutionary awareness to create a new life as masters of building of a new society.

The communists of Korea considered the principle of independence to be a basis of their activities at all stages of struggle — the bloody anti-Japanese armed struggle, the struggle for the democratic and socialist revolutions, the war during which a decisive counterattack was launched against the aggression of the U.S. imperialists, the struggle for reconstructing everything destroyed by the invaders and the struggle to build socialism overcoming all sorts of difficulties and obstructions.

All victories in socialist Korea have been won under the guidance of the WPK that takes the principle of independence as a basis of its activities at all times. It is vividly illustrated by the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions led by the WPK.

Touching on the politics representing class interests in a society, the article says:

The WPK, that has firmly united the people armed with the socialist idea around it, has set an example in firmly defending the socialist system and developing it with success.

The greatest happiness of the Korean people is that they have the powerful chuche idea that suits to the objective circumstances of the present era and correctly reflects the vital interests of working people. This idea was founded by Comrade Kim Il-song and is being developed by Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The chuche idea, an embodiment of the fundamental principle of independence, is systematized in a perfect and an all-round way. It serves as a powerful weapon in arousing the masses' strength, energy and creative activity.

The popular masses of Korea, led by the WPK, have won great victories under the banner of the chuche idea, and it is no doubt that they will register a greater victory on this road in the future, the article stresses, adding: "The rich and diversified experiences of the WPK and its strategies and tactics, innovative revolutionary theories and experience of uniting and revolutionizing the popular masses are the precious wealth of the international communist movement."

Kim Yong-nam Meets Ministers at NAM Conference

SK2110105795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 21 (KCNA) — Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and foreign minister of the DPRK who participated in the foreign ministerial conference of non-aligned countries in Cartagena, Colombia, met the foreign ministers of Cambodia, Ghana, Namibia, Angola, Burkina Faso, Libya, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea and Iran and the vice foreign minister of Laos on October 16 and 17.

Kim Yong-nam exchanged with them views on bilateral relations, the non-aligned [movement — NAM] summit and other matters of common concern.

Pak Song-chol on Position on Strengthening NAM

SK2110102895 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 21 Oct 95

["Vice President Pak Song-chol on DPRK Government's Position in Strengthening NAM" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 21 (KCNA) — Vice- President of the DPRK Pak Song-chol at the first-day sitting of the 11th summit meeting of the non-aligned countries made clear the position of the government of the DPRK in further strengthening the non-aligned movement [NAM] at present.

Pak, who is leading a delegation of the DPRK to the meeting, said among other things:

Firstly, we consider it necessary to further strengthen the unity and cohesion of the NAM.

To begin with, the basic principles and idea of the movement should be held fast to.

The non-aligned countries should hold the banner of unity high and wage a resolute struggle against any attempt to change the political character of the movement or modify the orbit of its activities.

The standard of admission to the movement should be maintained strictly in increasing its ranks.

The door of the NAM should be opened only to those countries which are independent and peace-loving and pursue non-alignment policy.

Secondly, the member states of the NAM should take a joint step with common strategy in the international arena, including the United Nations and further intensify support and solidarity among them.

First of all, disarmament, nuclear disarmament in particular, should be universal and complete.

We hold that an extraordinary meeting of the UN for disarmament should be convened and consider it necessary to hold a ministerial conference of the NAM for the coordination of the stand and willingness of the NAM member states prior to it.

The parties in disputes among the non-aligned countries should seek a peaceful solution to all problems in keeping with their mutual interests and the cause of peace.

Any attempt to reconstruct the UN in contrary to the interests of the non-aligned countries cannot be allowed at all.

The country that has not made an adequate apology and compensation for its past crimes of inflicting disasters and sufferings upon humankind is unqualified to get a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.

The non-aligned countries should not allow special countries to act high-handedly, stand unchallenged and enjoy privilege, but set themselves against the biased and improper acts of applying double standard in international relations.

We should determinedly reject attempts of some big powers to force their special politico-economic model and mode through such harsh conditionalities as "cooperation" and "aid", and take collective countermeasures against all manner of intervention under the mask of what they call "democracy" and "human rights."

We consider it necessary for the current summit meeting to adopt relevant decisions to organise celebrations to make the 35th anniversary of our movement an important occasion in maintaining the principle and character of the movement and strengthening its unity and cohesion.

Thirdly, the non-aligned countries should put spurs on the realisation of South-South cooperation and establish South-South economic order among the developing countries as demanded by the new situation.

The NAM member states should expand the scope of cooperation by developing South-South cooperation with redoubled efforts and tapping efficient ways of pooling the existing natural resources, techniques and experiences on the principle of collective self- reliance.

We hold that the current summit meeting should put forward a comprehensive strategy to encourage regional and sub-regional economic cooperation and amalgamation and, at the same time rationally coordinate regional cooperation and should adopt an action programme to activate and organise South-South cooperation on a worldwide scale.

Articles Dedicated to United Nations Day 24 Oct

SK2410050095 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0447 GMT 24 Oct 95

["Day of the United Nations Observed" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — Papers here today dedicate articles to the day of the United Nations.

In its activities the United Nations must ensure sovereignty and equality of all the member nations, faithfully discharge the obligation under its charter and strictly observe the principles of peaceful solution to international disputes, prohibition of the exercise of Armed Forces against other country and non-interference in other country's internal affairs.

NODONG SINMUN says as the UN has failed to observe the principles, many people consider that the UN has lacked impartiality and democracy in its activities from the period of the Cold War and has been used for the interests of big powers.

The paper further says:

The UN, greeting its 50th anniversary, is faced with tasks to conduct more energetic and effective activities to ensure peace and security in the world, promote socio-economic development and achieve coprosperity of humankind in conformity with its mission.

The tasks cannot be fulfilled unless the UN is reformed to be a fair and democratic international organization.

The world's progressives hope that the UN will become a fair and democratic international organization and make a new starting with its 50th anniversary as an occasion.

MINJU CHOSON says what is important in reforms of the UN is to have the will and interests of developing nations that comprise the absolute majority in the UN fully reflected.

The UN Security Council should be expanded and the veto power of its permanent members be abolished, the paper says, adding:

The UN, which is responsible for the division of Korea, must do only things favorable to a solution to the nuclear issue in the Korean peninsula, its peaceful reunification and some other matters.

Messages From Abroad Mark WPK Anniversary

SK2110052195 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0433 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang October 21 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from foreign party leaders on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the workers' Party of Korea. The messages came from Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the Funcinpec Party; Milomir Minic, general secretary of the Socialist Parth of Serbia; O. Musayev, first secretary of the Political Council of the Democratic Party of Turkmenistan; Milud Al Mahdabi, general secretary of the permanent secretariat of the Organisation of Socialists in the Mediterranean; Arthit Ourairat, leader of the Seritham Party of Thailand; Inaam Raad, chairman of the Nationalist Socialist Party of Syria in Lebanon; Ricardo Amiel, secretary general of the Christian People's Party of Peru; Dama Dramani general secretary of the Togolese People's Rally; Francisco Dissaxi, chairman of the Social Communist Party of Angola; Stevan Mirkovic, chairman of the presidency tf the Communist Workers Movement of Yugoslavia; Dogu Ferincek, chairman of the Workers' Party of Turkey; Preben Ooller Hansen, chairman of the Danish Workers' Party, Common Cause; and C.R. Aslam, President of the Pakistan Socialist Party.

The mssages extended warmest congratulations to Comrade Kim Chong-il and wished him good health and long life.

They expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the above-said parties and the Workers' Party of Korea would strengthen and develop in the future, too.

Comrade Kim Chong-il received a message of greetings from the secretariat of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan.

Angolan Popular Movement Leader

OW2110022195 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1013 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 20 (KCNA) — Lopo Fortunato Ferreira do Nascimento, secretary general of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola, issued a statement to the press on October 9 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea.

He said:

The Workers' Party of Korea has creditably discharged its mission as a vanguard unit of revolution from the first days of its foundation. It thoroughly carried out all the revolutionary tasks in each period and at each stage of revolution — the building of a new country, the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution, the fatherland liberation war against the imperialist forces of aggression, the postwar rehabilitation and construction, the socialist revolution.

The proud 50-year history of the WPK, especially, the proud achievements in the struggle to beat back the imperialist forces of aggression, make socio-economic progress of the country and realise the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, are associated with the immortal feats of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the founder and leader of the WPK.

The WPK is at the zenith of its development because it is led by the outstanding leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who is carrying forward the revolutionary cause of the great comrade President Kim Il-song.

The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has strengthened and developed the WPK to be a more tested and veteran party and wisely led the Korean people to a heroic struggle. As a result, rapid progress and remarkable achievements were made in all social aspects in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The relations between the WPK and the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola were forged at the first period when the Angolan people waged the national liberation struggle in the colony.

The Popular Liberation Movement of Angola will make all its efforts to strengthen and develop the good relations between the two countries and fight shoulder to shoulder with the WPK for a happy future of the two peoples.

Guyana, Bulgaria, Laos

SK2110052295 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 21 (KCNA) — The Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee [C.C.] received congratulatory messages from the C.C., the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, the Central Executive Committee of the People's National Congress of Guyana, the supreme council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party and chairman of the C.C., the Communist Party of Tajikistan Shodi Shabdolov on the occasion of the 50th founding anniversary of the WPK.

The messages noted that the WPK has built a prosperous socialist state by leading the Korean people to victory under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The messages sincerely hoped that the WPK will make a greater success in the struggle to hasten the construction of socialism and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Bangladesh, Austria, Portugal

SK2410044695 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 24 Oct 95

[Spelling of all names as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from foreign party leaders on the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The messages were sent by Rashed Khan Menon, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Bangladesh; Walter Bayer, chairman of the Communist Party of Austria; Johann Frnehuwirth, chairman of the Justice Party of Austria; Blasco Hugo Fernandes, chairman of the National Direction Committee of the Democratic Intervention of Portugal; Alberto Moreno, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru (Red Motherland); Tani Baler Lopera, general secretary of the National Executive Committee of the Left Revolutionary Union of Peru; Genaro Ledesma Izquieta, chairman of the People's Front of Workers, Peasants and Students of Peru; Gustavo Mohme Ryona, national secretary general of the Socialist Political Action Party of Peru; Eleazar Gutarra Maravi, chairman of the Peruvian Nationalist Movement of Labour; Luis Mateo Munos, general secretary of the Socialist Party of Peru; Eustoquio Contreras, general secretary of the People's Electoral Movement of Venezuela; Gladys Marin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Chile; Indalicio Sayago Herrera, general secretary of the National Headquarters of the Central Committee of the Socialist People's Party of Mexico; Rafael Aguilar Talamantes, national chairman of the Central Committee of the Lazaro Cardenas Front Party for National Reconstruction of Mexico; Vincent Cabrera, acting leader of the February 18th Movement of Trinidad and Tobago; Philippe Ouedraogo, secretary general of the African Party of Independence of Burkina Faso; Julian R. Hunte, leader of the St. Lucia Labour Party; and Ibrahima N'Diaye, secretary general of the Executive Committee of the African Party for the Solidarity and Justice of Mali.

The messages warmly congratulated Comrade Kim Chong-il on the 50th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea and wished him good health and a long life.

The messages expressed the belief that the Workers' Party and people of Korea would make achievements in the struggle for the socialist construction and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Nepal, Poland, Russia, Germany

SK2310060495 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 23 Oct 95

[All names are as received]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 23 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings on the occasion of the 50th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] from general secretary of the C. C. [Central Committee], the Communist Party of Bangladesh (Marxist-Leninist) Dilip Barua, general secretary of the C.C., the Workers and Peasants Socialist Party of Bangladesh Nir Mal Sen, convenor of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Bangladesh Khalequzzaman Bhuiyan, general secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the Bangladesh National Socialist Party Hasanul Huq Inu, convenor of the C. C., the Socialist Party of Bangladesh A. F. M. Mahbubul Huq, general secretary of the C. C., the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism- Leninism) Madhav Kumar Nepal, secretary general of the Sadbhavna Party Bharat Kumar Bimal, first secretary of the C. C., the Russian Communist Workers' Party V. Tyulkin, chairman of the Polish National Group for New Socialist Movement Edmund A. Tomczak, chairman of the National Executive Committee of the Polish League of Communists "Proletariat" Zbigniew Wiktor, chairman of the C. C., the Left Radical Party of Poland Boleslaw Jaszczuk, general secretary of the C. C., the Czechoslovak Party of Communists Miroslav Stepan, co-chairmen of the German Communist Party Rolf Priemer and Heinz Stehr, secretary general of the Sandinist National Liberation Front of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega Saavedra, secretary general of the October 8 Revolutionary Movement of Brazil Claudio Campos, chairman of the March 26 movement of Uruguay Ruben Maria Vera and general secretary of the Congolese Socialist Party Leon Nzokene.

The messages expressed warm congratulations to Comrade Kim Chong- il and wished him a long life in good health on the occasion of the 50th founding anniversary of the WPK.

They expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between their parties and the Workers' Party of Korea would continue to expand and develop.

International Military Sports Meeting Held

OW2110031595 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1523 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 20 (KCNA) — A meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Military Sports Council (CISM) was held in Pyongyang over October 18-20.

The meeting was attended by President Arthur Zechner and General Secretary Francois Pilot of the International Military Sports Council and members of the CISM Executive Committee from Belgium, Canada, Syria, Cameroon, Tunisia, Botswana, the United States, Italy, France, Kuwait and China.

Also present were Lieut. General of the Korean People's Army Choe Pu-il and other officials concerned.

The meeting discussed the structural, financial, information and other matters of the CISM.

The meeting will help toward developing sports among council member states.

A press conference was called at the People's Palace of Culture after the meeting closed.

Vice President Meets Delegates

OW2110033995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1524 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 20 (KCNA) — Vice-President of the DPRK Yi Chong-ok met and had a talk with participants in the meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Military Sports Council (CISM) at the Mansudae Assembly hall today.

On hand was Lieu. General Choe Pu-il of the Korean People's Army.

Flood Damage Committee Details Relief Effort

SK1810011695 (Internet) Campaign To Help North Korean Flood Victims WWW in English 17 Oct 95

[Letter from the Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Bernard Krisher, chairman and publisher of "American Assistance to Cambodia and Japan Relief for Cambodia" located in Tokyo, Japan; dated 4 October 1995]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea acknowledges the receipt of your fax of September 26 and thanks you deeply once again for your committed campaign for international relief assistance and information activities, setting a goal of $1 million relief donations for the flood damage in your country.

We would like to assure you that the issues you have raised in your fax with regard to the transport to our country of the forthcoming donations will be positively considered and resolved as you requested as soon as possible, and in particular we will readily agree to your visit to our country coming with the relief supplies to hand them over to us.

It will be necessary for us to exchange further communications as regards the relief supplies transport and your personal visit to our country.

We wish to remind you of our significant loss of grains due to the hail damage last year and again the recent flood damage, and would like you to put into consideration our suggestion that it would be preferable for you to give priority to food assistance in your donations collection campaign.

As for your request to provide you with any information about the child in the home page photo, we cannot meet your needs to our regard, since the photo we got from your fax is hardly discernible.

In the meantime, we want to take this opportunity to send you information on the present status of the international relief assistance for the flood damage in the DPRK for your release through your INTERNET:

1. A two-member team of the "Medecins Sans Frontiers" (MSF) visited Pyongyang from September 23 to 26, 1995.

During the visit; an agreement was reached between the Ministry of Public Health of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the MSF on the MSF provision of medical services to the flood affected people of Pakchon, Huichon and Unpa Counties. According to the agreement, a MSF medical team is due to be in the DPRK by next week with all its committed medical supplies worth USD 1,000,000.

2. The DPRK Government has agreed to the visit to the DPRK by a three-member delegation of the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs (UNDHA) and requested the UNDHA, through the UN Resident Coordinator, to forward at the earliest possible [date] particulars required for procedural arrangement for issuing visas including curriculum vitae and specific duration of their stay in the country.

3. Relief supplies from the Russian Government (20 tons of rice, 3,000 blankets and 1.5 tons of medicine) arrived in Pyongyang on September 28, 1995.

4. Updated Contribution (not reported to the UNDHA)

Governments:

a) Germany	USD 100,000
b) Pakistan	USD 160,000
c) Finland	USD 100,000
d) Sweden	USD 110,000
e) Iran	USD 100,000
f) India	USD 100,000
g) Malaysia	USD 25,000
h) Belgium	USD 7,300
UN Organizations:	
UNICEF	USD 300,000
Red Cross Societies:	
a) China	USD 36,000
b) Norway	USD 33,000
c) Austria	USD 23,000
d) Iceland	USD 3,100
e) Finland	USD 45,000
f) Denmark	USD 55,000
g) Slovakia	USD 1,300
h) Sweden	USD 280,000
NGOs:	
a) Catholic Relief Service, Regional Office	
	USD 500,000
b) World Council of Churches	USD 100,000
c) Suma-Chenghai Society of Cambodia	USD 200,000
d) Assn. of Medical Doctors for Asia	USD 70,000
e) ADRA (US)	USD 760,000
f) American Aid	USD 240,000
g) National Council of Churches of the Christ (US)	USD 100,000
h) International Vision	USD 500,000

The Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sincerely wishes you great success in your humanitarian work. Best regards,

[Signed] Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Chongnyon Sends Flood Relief Supplies

OW2110030795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1515 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 20 (KCNA) — Relief materials carrying the patriotic and compatriotic sincerity of Koreans in Japan were sent to the people in the flood-afflicted areas of the homeland by the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

A large quantity of such relief materials as groceries, garments and daily necessities arrived on October 9 following a shipment of quantities of relief materials including medicines and blankets on September 26.

PRC, Syria Decide To Send Flood Aid

OW2110033795 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 20 (KCNA) — Decisions on sending cooperation materials to the people in flood- stricken areas were adopted in China and Syria in connection with flood damage in various areas of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Chinese Governement, some days ago, adopted a decision on sending relief materials worth 30 million yuan in Chinese RMB (about dls 3.37 million) and the Syrian Government a decision on sending 20,000 tons of wheat and 20,000 tons of barley.

These decisions are an expression of the traditional friendship and solidarity of the Chinese and Syrian peoples with the Korean people and proceed from the will of the governments and peoples of China and Syria to further strengthen and develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the DPRK.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Public Security Workers

SK2110053995 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 21 (KCNA) — The great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the workers and the three-revolution team members of the Kim Chong-tae general electric locomotive work , workers of the July 6 railway factory, the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, the Mangyongdae Aeguk aluminium sash factory and the Nangnang Senior Middle School No. 1 in Pyongyang for having contributed to producing the "three-revolution red flag" and "Nodongja" electric locomotives and passenger coaches.

Comrade Kim Chong-il also thanked the workers of the North Hamgyong provincial library and the Undok County, North Hamgyong Province, security department who did good thing for society and the collective.

Duty of Press To Stress 'Leader's Greatness'

SK2410114395 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 24 Oct 95

["Propaganda of Leader's Greatness Is Basic Duty of Party's Press" — KCNA headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pyongyang, October 24 (KCNA) — The party's press is a powerful ideological weapon to firmly unite all the party members and the working people around the party and the leader and actively contribute to the accomplishment of the cause of modelling the whole society on the chuche idea. It is because the press is regarding the propaganda of the leader's greatness as an important and main line, Yang Kyong-pok, president of the Workers' Party of Korea publishing house, said in his article contributed to NODONG SINMUN today.

The Workers' Party of Korea Publishing House started its activities with publication of a portrait of the great leader President Kim Il-song and his famous work "on the building of new Korea and the national united front" 50 years ago.

He further said:

Only when it is under the leader's direct guidance and concern can the press of the working class become a powerful weapon to arm the masses with the leader's idea and rouse the broad masses to carrying out the tasks advanced by the leader.

Comrade Kim Il-song expounded the basic mission and duty of the party's press long ago and wisely led it to become a powerful ideological weapon of our party.

The party's press has met a new heyday under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Comrade Kim Chong-il in his famous work "On Publishing and Propagating Ours a Great Deal" and other works brightly indicated the road ahead of the party' press.

His noble intention is that the press should publish books and ideological and educational materials based on the immortal exploits of the party and the leader.

Thanks to respected Comrade Kim Chong-il's idea and wise leadership for chuche-oriented press our party's press could have the features as the leader's press actively contributing to propagating the greatness of the party and the leader.

It is the consistent policy of respected Comrade Kim Chong-il that the press should publish many books on Comrade Kim Il-song's outstanding ideological and theoretical activities, leadership, brilliant revolutionary exploits and noble communist virtues.

The party's press remains an ideological weapon actively contributing to accomplishing the party's cause and a textbook for the struggle and life of the party members and the working people.

We will more actively conduct press activities with main stress laid on absolutely defending the idea and feats of Comrade Kim Il- song, developing our party as the glorious party of Comrade Kim Il-song and successfully inheriting and accomplishing the revolutionary cause of chuche, true to the leadership of respected General Kim Chong-il.

Pyongwon Export Clothing Plant Operation Begins

SK2010142595 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The first round of construction of the Pyongwon Export Clothing Plant and Sonchon Spinning Mill has been completed, both plants beginning operation on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the party.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leader [yongdoja] of our party and people, sent a note of thanks to workers, technicians, and clerks for their contribution in building the plants.

The first round of the two ceremonies to begin operation of the Pyongwon Export Clothing Plant and Sonchon Spinning Mill was held on the spot on 15 and 19 October, respectively. So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, responsible secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial party, and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; relevant functionaries; and workers, technicians, and clerks of the units concerned attended the ceremonies.

During the ceremonies, Comrade So Yun-sok read a note of thanks from Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leader of our party and people. Following this, reports and discussions were held. A letter of resolution was also adopted at the ceremonies. The red ribbon hanging over the entrance to the plants was cut. Then, participants toured the major production processes of the plants which have newly begun operation.

Report on Power Stations' Increasing Production

SK2310020495

[FBIS Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of three reports from Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean and Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean on power plants increasing electricity production.

Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 1200 GMT on 17 October carries a one-minute report on functionaries and the working class of the Wiwon power station who are "well aware of the importance of electricity in implementing the party's revolutionary economic strategy," all the more accelerating electricity production. The report says "workers and technicians of the electric machine work site developed spring hammer and plasma cutting machine through their own strength and technology," and working class of the structure work site made it possible to all the more qualitatively guarantee repair work of structures and various facilities. The report concludes by saying that "electricity producers of this power station are carrying out facility and technical management well," and are operating generators at full capacity, thus "much electricity is being produced daily."

Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 0300 GMT on 22 October carries a one-minute report on "workers of the Wiwon power station achieving innovations in electricity production, thus, sending much electricity to various sectors of the people's economy." The report says "electricity producers of this power station who are vigorously advancing overflowing with faith and optimism in accordance with the great leader [yongdoja] Comrade Kim Chong-il's leadership, are all the more effectively using the people's water, thus these days producing 1.2 times more electricity compared with the same period last year." The report concludes by saying that "much electricity is being produced daily."

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 22 October carries a one-minute report on "electricity producers of Changgang No. 1 power station vigorously carrying out the struggle to increase electricity production." The report says workers here are "carrying out facility and technical management work well, thus operating every power facility at full operation and full capacity." The report continues to say that they are always deeply bearing in mind the teaching by the "respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il" on building small and medium-sized power stations and operating them well which he personally made when he visited Chagang Province, thus "producing more electricity than the daily target."

Naung-Chaesok Railway Electrification Completed

SK2010142495 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 16 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] During the period in which we significantly greeted the 50th anniversary of the founding of the glorious Workers Party of Korea as a grand festival of victories, railway electrification between Naung and Chaesok was completed and the line was opened.

As a result of the completion of railway electrification between Naung and Chaesok, a unified system of haulage by electric locomotives has been completed in the Naung District. In addition, culture and transportation safety have been further guaranteed.

Youth shock brigade members and workers of the Hamhung Railway Bureau, who are engaged in railway electrification, successfully completed the various projects in the short period of two months, including the work to extend [word indistinct] line and electric car line on approximately 10 sections, as well as the work to reconstruct high-voltage electric and communication lines, bearing a burning feeling of loyalty to the party and the leader [suryong].

The ceremony to open the electric railway between Naung and Chaesok was held on the spot on 16 October. Relevant functionaries, including Minister of Railways Pak Yong-sok, attended the ceremony along with builders, workers of the Naung District Railway Station, and working people. During the ceremony, Chang Chun-yong, chairman of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea Committee, made a report on the opening of the electric railway. As the red ribbon covering the front of a train was cut, the train departed for its destination.

Koreans Who 'Volunteered' To Work in Rural Area

SK2410005795

[FBIS Editorial Report] Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 4 October carries a two minute report on a meeting held to deliver Kim Chong-il's letter of thanks to Kim Song-man, an employee at the Korean People's Army [KPA] Unit to which "Comrade Kim Pong-sun" belongs, and his family for venturing to a socialist rural farm.

Describing the scene of the meeting and the participants' remarks vowing to be loyal to Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il, the report states that "fellow employees of the KPA unit are sending off Kim Song-man and his family," then quotes Kim Song-man as introducing his sons and daughters-in-law. The report also quotes Kim Song-man as saying: "We will devote all our strength and the wisdom of our family to build our socialist rural community into a better cultural one by cherishing in our hearts the great trust and glory bestowed by the great leader General Kim Chong-il."

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 5 October carries an under-one-minute report in which the announcer reports: "Comrades Kim Yong-il and Chong In-chol, who worked at the Pyongyang Tobacco Plant under the Korean Tobacco General Company, voluntarily ventured to the Munun Tobacco Farm in Kangdong County and the Posa Cooperative Farm in Kangso District of Nampo, respectively, with a firm determination to defend the socialist rural position." It also notes their departure for their new places of employment.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 12 October carries an under-one-minute report in which the announcer states: "Comrade Kim Hak-chol, an officer at the Public Security Ministry, recently volunteered to venture to Chungpyong Cooperative Farm in Wonsan together with his family." The report notes his departure for the cooperative.

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 18 October carries an under-one-minute report in which the announcer states: "Comrade O Mok-hyon, who graduated from Kumsong First Middle School, recently volunteered to venture to the socialist rural community. Teachers and students at this school warmly sent off Comrade O Mok-hyon, who was leaving for a socialist rural community with a firm determination to brilliantly implement the respected and beloved general's lofty will." The announcer also states: "Comrade O Mok-hyon has supported the Kumdok Mine Complex during his school vocations over the past 10 years; the respected and beloved general sent him a letter of thanks for this."

Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean at 1100 GMT on 19 October carries an under-one-minute report in which the announcer states Pak Kyong-ok and her sister, who worked at the Pyongyang Taesong Export Garment Plant, recently volunteered to venture to the Yoltusamcholli Plan Cooperative Farm in Sokchon County .

Cooperative Farms Accelerate Rice Threshing Work

SK2310100495

[FBIS Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of news reports on rice harvesting carried by Pyongyang

Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean and Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean.

At 1200 GMT on 18 October, Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean carries a brief report on cooperative farms in Suwan County accelerating rice threshing work. The radio reports that "the Cholsan and Pyongon Cooperative Farms in the county are increasing their daily threshing work by 1.2 times to 1.3 times by operating all available rice threshing machines at full capacity."

At 0300 GMT on 20 October, Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean carries a brief news report on cooperative farms in Kimchaek city accelerating rice threshing work, noting that the Hotong, Tanso, Kumpyong, and Wonpyong Cooperative Farms in the city are more vigorously accelerating rice threshing by operating all available rice threshing machines at full capacity.

At 1200 GMT on 20 October, Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean carries a brief report on agricultural workers in the Chaeryong Plain in South Hwanghae Province accelerating rice threshing. The report notes that agricultural workers in Anak County have already completed threshing some 5,700 tonnes of rice by operating threshing machines at full capacity. The radio also carries a brief report on cooperative farms in Kimchaek city accelerating rice threshing. The report notes that the Hotong, Tanso, Kumpyong, and Wonpyong Cooperative Farms in the city are overfulfilling their daily threshing quotas by 1.2 to 1.3 times by operating their threshing machines at full capacity.

At 2100 GMT on 20 October, Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean carries a 2-minute report on an interview by a station reporter with Kim Chung-pae, deputy director of a bureau of the Agricultural Committee, on the status of rice threshing. The deputy director was quoted as saying that "functionaries and agricultural workers in South Hwanghae Province are threshing 7,000 to 8,000 tonnes of rice a day and are increasing corn threshing by 16 to 20 percent a day" and that "cooperative farms in Nampo city are overfulfilling the work of hauling sheaves of rice by 20 percent." The deputy director was also quoted as saying that "functionaries and agricultural workers in South and North Pyongan Provinces, including Yangdok and Yomju Counties, are accelerating the work of hauling sheaves of rice."

At 1200 GMT on 21 October, Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean carries a brief report on Uiju County accelerating rice threshing. The report says that "the Sujin and Taehwa Cooperative Farms in the county, in particular, are effecting an innovation of increasing rice threshing work by 1.2 times recently" and that other cooperative farms in the county are accelerating rice threshing as well.

The radio also carries a brief report on the Taesan Branch Farm of the Yongyong County General Farm accelerating planting wheat and barley.

At 1100 GMT on 20 October, Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean carries a brief report on the (Ongo) Cooperative Farm in Anak County accelerating the work of hauling and threshing rice. The television says that the functionaries and members of the cooperative farm are accelerating the work of hauling and threshing rice with the target of completing the rice threshing work for this year 10 days ahead of schedule.

The television also carries brief reports on the Up Cooperative Farm in Changpung County accelerating corn threshing and the Yongsa Cooperative Farm in Cholsan County and the Pongo Cooperative Farm in Kangnyong County accelerating the work of hauling and threshing rice. The reports say that the members of the cooperative farms "are accelerating their work with the firm determination to haul sheaves of rice and thresh them in a timely manner as intended by the respected and beloved general."

At 1100 GMT on 22 October, Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean carries an under-minute report on the Migok Cooperative Farm in Sariwon city accelerating rice threshing. The report notes that the cooperative farm is accelerating rice threshing work "by properly planning and coordinating economic and organizational work."

South Korea

U.S. Plans Visa Extension for South Koreans

SK2410020095 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 24 Oct 95 p 2

[YONHAP from Washington]

[FBIS Translated Text] Before the end of next year, the U.S. Government plans to take steps to improve the visa issuance system for six countries, including extending the issuance period of visas. The ROK is among the six countries, who are dissatisfied with U.S. visa issuance.

This was confirmed in a draft "state tourism strategy" prepared by the U.S. Department of Commerce for presentation to a tourism promotion conference to be held in Washington under White House auspices for two days beginning 30 October. This strategy is expected to be confirmed during the conference. U.S. President Bill Clinton is expected to participate.

Editorial Stresses Need To Revise SOFA Accord

SK2410021495 Seoul MUNHWA ILBO in Korean 23 Oct 95 p 3

[Editorial: "The Status of Forces Agreement and the Dispatch of a U.S. Judge"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Three months have passed since the ROK and the United States jointly announced on 18 July that they would start negotiations to revise the Status of Forces Agreement [SOFA], but progress has yet to be made. Even if the ROK conveyed a draft for negotiations to the U.S. side, the United States has not expressed its intention to review it, nor put forward a draft for the SOFA revision.

In an interview with the U.S. paper THE NEW YORK TIMES on 14 October, President Kim Yong-sam stated that "because the situation has changed a lot, I believe it is better to revise the SOFA for ROK-U.S. relations." However, the U.S. State Department stated on 17 October that "even a date for negotiations has yet to be set."

The U.S. military leadership reacted to the ROK's proposal even before the reaction of the U.S. diplomatic circles. The special committee to improve the standard of living for the U.S. troops under the U.S. Secretary of the Department of Defense, recommended on 19 October that the U.S. Government review plans to dispatch a federal justice of the peace to the ROK and Japan where the U.S. troops are stationed. Of course, at this point, it is a mere recommendation.

We would like to point out, however, that this idea of the United States runs counter to the move to discuss the SOFA revision and, also, in certain cases, may be an important matter of sovereignty. The special committee which included the former commander of the U.S. troops in the ROK, (Wickham), toured Yongsan, Osan, and Panmunjom, and prepared a report which indicated that "commanders of the U.S. troops stressed the need for U.S. judges to deal with crimes committed by U.S. military dependents, contractors, and civilian employees." Of the approximately 2,200 crimes committed by U.S. troops in the ROK in one year, violations of traffic laws and the traffic incident processing special law have been overwhelming, while violations of the law against violent crime, have been slight. We wonder if the special committee is aware of this situation.

Even the special committee itself apparently added that "this is a sensitive matter linked to the SOFA and international negotiations." Underlined in the unfair SOFA agreement is the U.S. side's deep mistrust of ROK jurisdiction. Also, since August, high-level officials of the U.S. Administration and Congress — such as Laney, U.S. ambassador to the ROK; Nye, assistant secretary of the Department of Defense; and (Biright), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asia-Pacific Affairs — have successively remarked that exaggerated reports by the ROK press have spurred anti-U.S. sentiment among the Korean people. By so doing, they are blurring the focus on the main issues regarding the SOFA agreement.

The Japanese Government's jurisdiction rate over U.S. crimes is over 12 times that of the ROK. The U.S. commander and the U.S. ambassador to Japan, as well as the U.S. State Department, have apologized for the Okinawa incident which took place in early September. Even U.S. President Clinton apologized for this. Realizing the sentiment of Koreans who are watching the cool U.S. attitude toward the ROK, which contrasts with the warm attitude toward Japan, the government should point out the limitations of the U.S. view of the ROK, and hold negotiations to revise the SOFA.

Two Men Exchange Fire With Soldiers, Police

SK2410093795 Seoul YONHAP in English 0908 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Puyo, South Chungchong Province, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — One of the two unidentified armed men who appeared on a mountain near here around 2:40 PM Tuesday, was captured alive by military and police forces at about 4:25 PM

The two were seen contacting with each other by a villager in a mountain behind the Chongkak-ri village, Soksong-myon, Puyo County.

When police and military troops, tipped by the villager, reached the scene, the duo opened their pistols at the troops and there ensued an exchange of fire, during which one was captured and the other fled away.

The identity of the captured gunman is yet to be determined.

During the operation, Patrolman Na Song-chu of the Puyo police was wounded seriously when hit with a pistol shot fired by one of the gunmen.

The police and military troops sealed the area and were continuing their hunt for the fled man.

Captured Gunman DPRK 'Intruder'

SK2410102695 Seoul YONHAP in English 1015 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — The gunman who was captured alive in an exchange of fire with police and military troops on a mountain near Puyo, South Chungchong Province, Tuesday afternoon has turned out to be a North Korean intruder.

He was one of the two who were seen contacting with each other at an unoccupied mountain house. The other fled away.

A military source said the captured man identified himself only as Kim To-sik, age 33, and said he infiltrated into the South last August.

He refused to say any further, though authorities tried to find out his infiltration route, his mission, etc. "We are encountering much difficulties in obtaining his statement partly because he is gagged," the source said.

Meanwhile, one policeman was fatally wounded and two others seriously in the operation.

Patrolman Chang Chin-hui of the Puyo police was pronounced dead on arrival at a hospital and patrolmen Na Song-chu and Song Kyun-hon were taken to Chungnam University Hospital for serious wounds.

Agent Divulges Compatriot's Name

SK2410130295 Seoul YONHAP in English 1253 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Puyo, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — One North Korean armed intruder who fled away after an exchange of fire with police and military troops on a mountain near here Tuesday afternoon was identified as Pak Kwang-nam, age 31.

The other agent, Kim To-sik who was captured after suffering a gunshot wound on the leg, told interrogators his fellow agent is Pak Kwang-nam aged 31.

Kim, however, refused to elaborate on the fugitive agent, a military source said.

20,000 Troops Mobilized in Area

SK2410123795 Seoul YONHAP in English 1226 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — Upon the appearance of two North Korean intruders near Puyo Tuesday afternoon, the Defense Ministry placed military units in the South Chungchong and North Cholla Province areas under alert, mobilizing 20,000 military troops and reservists for operations against a fleeing infiltrator.

The other was captured alive and identified himself as Kim To-sik, 33, who he said intruded into the South last August.

As night fell, the army suspended search and instead blockaded areas around the scene, such as Puyo, Kongju and Nonsan.

A military source said the duo were first pursued by agents of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP). As the fugitives resisted the pursuers by opening their pistols, the NSP agents asked a nearby army unit for support, the source added.

Kim Chong-il's Siblings Said Assigned Overseas

SK2410011095 Seoul YONHAP in English 0103 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Berlin, Oct. 23 (YONHAP) — All of North Korean de facto leader Kim Chong-il's half-sister and -brothers have been assigned overseas, with Kim Yong-il, 40, the youngest son of the late President Kim Il-song being the last of them posted abroad by arriving in Berlin recently to serve as a diplomat, diplomatic sources here said Monday.

Kim Yong-il, the last child of the one daughter and two sons born to Kim Il-song by his second wife Kim Song-ae, assumed a counselor post at the North Korean Interest Section in Berlin earlier this month, according to the sources.

The North Koreans had notified the German Foreign Ministry in advance of its plan to appoint a counselor named Kim Yong-il who was born in 1955 to the overseas mission there and Bonn authorities confirmed that "Counselor Kim" is a son of the late Kim Il-song.

Kim Yong-il was learned to have studied in East Germany in the 1980s, obtained a doctorate degree in electrical engineering from Humboldt University and served at the Pyongyang Embassy in East Germany before the two Germanies were unified.

Kim Pyong-il, 41, another half-brother of Kim Chong-il, has been serving as ambassador to Finland since last year, while his half-sister Kim Kyong-chin, 43, has been staying in Vienna as the wife of Ambassador to Austria Kim Kwang-sop. Thus both of his half-brothers and his one half-sister are all stationed abroad.

Some observers have speculated that assigning them overseas is part of Kim Chong-il's plan to reinforce his power base and is designed to curtail their influence.

Building Infrastructure in Najin-Sonbong Stressed

SK2410021695 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 23 Oct 95 p 13

[Article by Yu Sung-u: "Social Overhead Capital Construction Is Earnestly Being Carried Out in Najin and Sonbong]

[FBIS Translated Text] The construction of a social overhead capital facility—including transport, communication, and power construction—is now earnestly being carried out in the Najin-Sonbong Economic Free Trade Zone, a wild land.

According to CHOSON SINBO, an organ of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, on 4 September North Korea opened a border road linking Najin-Sonbong to Hunchun, the PRC special economic zone. In addition, it plans to complete the work to expand the 112-kilometer road between Najin and Saebyol County, North Hamgyong Province, within the year.

On 20 September, North Korea completed the work to lay a fiber cable communication line between Najin and Hunchun, which was begun in November 1994, holding a ceremony on the spot. It has also expanded its harbor facility, completing the construction of a fertilizer transit site at the No. 1 pier of Najin Port.

North Korea's Central Broadcasting Network reported that the population had increased from 300,000 to 1 million in Najin-Sonbong. It also announced plans to expand the facility, including the construction of a highway, before 2000.

Following the announcement in December 1991 of Najin-Sonbong as an economic free trade zone, North Korea has largely engaged in publicity by inviting several hundred foreign business delegations. However, it was not able to achieve good results because of the lack of a social overhead capital facility.

In an interview with THE FINANCIAL TIMES, Kim Mun-song, head of the delegation that visited the United Kingdom on 24 September to lure foreign investment, stated that "because the facility for social overhead capital in Najin-Sonbong is backward, equipment investment is necessary to build a modern communication network," adding: "In particular, an airport should be constructed so large planes can take off and land; but the investment in this work is very small."

The permissible criterion for foreign investment in Najin-Sonbong is approximately $200 million, though the actual total is approximately $20 million at present.

Social figures who visited Najin-Sonbong after attending a briefing in Beijing on 26 September regarding investment have reportedly stated: "The roads in the area are not paved, nor is there a gas station. Even the communications facility is bad."

According to the U.S. journal (THE OVER COMMERCE), (Ivan Davis), the section chief in charge of PRC and North Korean affairs in the UN Development Program, predicted: "Export goods produced in the northeast PRC are being transported to Dalian Port, 431 miles away. If Najin Port, which is 30 miles away, is equipped with facilities, naturally it will be an important trade center in Northeast Asia."

North Relaxes Najin-Sonbong Area 'Restrictions'

SK2410100095 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 24 Oct 95 p 1

[NAEWOE report]

[FBIS Translated Text] CHOSON SINBO, an organ of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon], recently reported that North Korea has in fact taken measures to withdraw land leasing restrictions on foreigners and foreign companies in the Najin-Sonbong region, which has been designated a free-trade economic zone to lure foreign investment.

Pak Tong-su, vice director of the Chongnyon Joint Venture Project Promotion Committee, which is in charge of Chongnyon's joint venture projects, recently held an interview with CHOSON SINBO and said that to lure more foreign investment, North Korea, which had limited the land leasing term to 50 years in the Najin-Sonbong region, has decided to extend the term for land leasing and will not limit the size of land tracts that are leased.

Kim Yong-sam Starts Separate Summit Talks

SK2310055395 Seoul YONHAP in English 0243 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 22 (YONHAP) — President Kim Yong-sam on Sunday launched a series of separate summit meetings with the heads of state or government from 10 countries, beginning with Singapore's Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

At a meeting held at the Wardorf Astoria Hotel, Kim and Goh agreed that their countries expand bilateral trade and investment and collaborate in construction and telecommunications business projects in third countries, a presidential aide said.

In the hour-long meeting, the two leaders also agreed to endeavor for the success of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit slated for Osaka, Japan, in November.

On Monday and Tuesday, Kim is scheduled to meet with leaders from Britain, Chile, Vietnam, France, Romania, Spain, Tajikistan, the Marshall Islands and Israel.

Earlier Sunday, Kim attended a reception hosted by U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Also on Sunday, Kim shared breakfast with former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to exchange views on the world situation including that of the Korean peninsula.

Kim Yong-sam, Chirac Discuss Nuclear Issues

SK2410103995 Seoul YONHAP in English 0750 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] United Nations, Oct. 23 (YONHAP) — South Korean President Kim Yong-sam held summits with British Prime Minister John Major, French President Jacques Chirac, Chilean President Eduardo Frei and Romanian Prime Minister Nicolae Vacaroiu here in New York Monday.

In the meetings with Major and Chirac, he shared with them the view that the upcoming Asia-Europe summit conference slated for next March in Bangkok will provide an opportunity to increase the relationship between the two regions, while agreeing to make a joint effort for the success of this meeting.

In his encounter with the French president, Kim expressed regret over France's nuclear tests in the South Pacific and urged him to stop testing. But Chirac said the tests were necessary for France's national security.

Kim and Chirac agreed to make joint efforts to realize France's early return to Korea of old Korean documents which the European nation's navy took from the peninsula in the late 19th century, as Chirac's predecessor promised.

When Kim asked for France's participation in the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization [KEDO] to help with the construction of new light-water nuclear reactors in North Korea, the French leader said he would positively consider the issue.

British Prime Minister Major told Kim that he would study a plan to visit Seoul either before or after the Asia-Europe summit meeting slated for Bangkok next March.

When Kim asked for British support for South Korea's bid to host the World Cup football championships in 2002, Major said he would take note of South Korea's aspiration.

Seoul Wants Japanese Basic Treaty Reinterpreted

SK2410084695 Seoul YONHAP in English 0702 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — Vice Foreign Minister Yi Si-yong said Tuesday that the South Korean Government does not want to revise the 1965 Korea-Japan basic treaty but requests that Japan reinterpret the accord on the legality of Japan's annexation of Korea.

"I don't think it's desirable for us to revise the treaty which served as the basis of Korea-Japan relations for the past 30 years," Yi said. He was responding to questions raised by senior Japanese journalists who were attending a seminar at the press center in downtown Seoul which was organized by the Korean Newspaper Editors' Association (KNEA).

Yi, however, urged the Japanese Government to make efforts to "correctly" interpret the Korea-Japan basic treaty regarding the legality of the 1910 Korea-Japan annexation treaty, reminding that Foreign Minister Kong No-myong recently summoned Japanese Ambassador here Shintaro Yamashita to demand that the Japanese Government reinterpret the basic treaty.

South Korea insists that the expression "already null and void" in the basic treaty declared the annexation was never valid and, therefore, it was null and void from the beginning.

Japan, meanwhile, has interpreted the expression as meaning the annexation was legitimate at the time of its signing but was nullified after Japan was defeated in World War II in 1945.

On the question whether South Korea will pursue hardline policies toward North Korea to pressure the North to collapse or take soft-landing measures to allow the North to come out of its current economic and political plights, the vice foreign minister said that the Seoul Government will have to resort to flexible attitudes in order to adapt to the fluid situations in the North.

Expressing concern over the tension between South Korea and Japan triggered by the recent remarks made by Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama and his cabinet members attempting to justify Japan's annexation of Korea, Yi urged the Japanese people to try to reach an understanding about the history which is commonly shared by the people of its neighboring countries.

Yi said that Japan was successful in pushing ahead with its modernization or westernization projects at the turn of the century but added that the problem arose when Japan looked upon its Asian neighbors as the objects of

Japan's imperialism just like Western powers pursued imperialism at that time.

"In the course (of Japan going imperialistic), Japanese leaders considered Japan's expansion a due cause of the modernization of their country or the construction of a great East Asia commonwealth, rather than as an imperialistic invasion or colonization," Yi said.

Yi assumed that kind of thinking might have affected some of the Japanese who still have distorted perspectives of Japan's relations with neighboring countries.

PRC Meeting on Passenger Planes 'Dragging On'

SK2410011695 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 Oct 95 p 8

[FBIS Transcribed Text] An ambitious project for the joint development of mid-size passenger airplanes by South Korea and China is dragging on with a working-level meeting in Beijing last weekend producing no tangible results.

Officials at the ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy [MOTIE] said yesterday that while there are no specific problems with the projects, sensitive issues remain unsolved and further talks are expected at the end of the month.

"The project itself contains so many details that it is difficult to clear everything at once. Talks are still in progress and results are expected in the near future," said MOTIE aviation director Yi Won-mu.

Last weekend's talk, which ended in Beijing Saturday [21 October], was attended by senior officials of the two main companies in the deal — Samsung Aerospace and Aviation Industry Corporation of China.

The main outstanding issues in the project are the selection of a third foreign company which will supply the basic technology and the site for the assembly of the passenger planes with seating capacities of about 100.

While informed sources said Boeing is in the best position to become the third party, the two countries are continuing to wrangle over the prospect of building the planes in their country.

The two parties had initially agreed to conclude all details of the project by the end of last month, but had to delay in the absence of a compromise. It was then expected to be finalized by the end of this month.

However, with Yi Kon-u, director general for basic industries, expected to head out to Beijing to iron out the differences, results are mostly not due until the beginning of next month at the earliest, observers said.

Kim Tae-chung Departs for PRC for Meeting

SK2410031195 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — Kim Tae- chung, president of the main opposition National Congress for New Politics (NCNP), left for Beijing Tuesday morning to attend an academic meeting scheduled to open there Wednesday.

Kim, visiting China in his capacity as chairman of the Peace Foundation for the Asia-Pacific Region, is also expected to meet with top Chinese officials including Qiao Shi, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress.

The Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs will host the meeting entitled "Peace and Economic Cooperation in the Asia Pacific Region" on Wednesday and Thursday.

Kim will deliver a speech to the meeting and have talks with Liu Shuqing, president of the institute, and several figures from the Chinese State Council and Foreign Ministry.

Rep. Pak Chi-won, NCNP spokesman, said, "Party President Kim will ask China to play its role for the improvement of inter-Korean relations and peace on the Korean peninsula during his visit."

Kim was accompanied by party Guidance Committee Chairman Rep. Kim Sang-hyon, Rep. Yi Chong-chan, Rep. Yim Chae-chung and other party officials.

Seoul's Request for Moscow Fishing Quotas Noted

SK2410010895 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 24 Oct 95 p 8

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government asked Russian officials to set the fishing quota for Korean fishers in Russian waters at 77,000 tons, the same level as last year. But Russian officials gave a negative response to Seoul's request.

Seoul's call was conveyed to the Russian delegation in the 5th Korea-Russia Fisheries Committee discussing the pollack fishing quota for Korean fishers in Russian waters which opened yesterday at the National Fisheries Administration (NFA) building.

In the meeting session, which will last until Oct. 29, NFA administrator Pak Kwang-hun and Russian Fisheries Committee chairman Vladimir Fedorovich Koreljsky [spelling of name as published] began discussions on the amount of pollack which domestic companies can catch within the Russian piscary, setting fishing charges and boundaries.

The Korean officials then demanded that Russia arrange fishing regions like the previous year.

But the Russian side asserted that the quota be reduced, and the fishing charges be raised sharply.

This year's bilateral negotiation is expected to face barricades due to the wide range of differences in the position of the two nations, said a spokesman of the NFA.

The annual meeting began in 1991. Last year, the meeting saw no progress because of Russia's demand for "excessive" raising of fishing charges, according to the spokesman.

The problems related to the quota and charges were settled through private channels later.

Russia seems to be poised to adamantly maintain its position of lowering the fishing quota while raising the fishing charge ahead of the opening of the market of frozen pollacks next year, according to relevant businesses.

"Russia plans to drastically increase its pollack exports, taking advantage of next year's scheduled opening of the pollack market," an NFA official said.

The fishing amount of pollack reached 344,000 tons last year, among which 299,000 tons, 87.1 percent, came from deep-sea fishing.

Of the deep-sea production, 77.9 percent, 233,400 tons, were produced in Russian waters.

With the exception of 77,000 tons, all of the fishing in accordance with the quota between the two governments was through private sectors.

According to the governmental agreement, fishing charges for pollack with spawn is 336 dollars, while that for pollack without spawn is 205 dollars and 60 cents.

But domestic companies pay higher charges when fishing individually.

Seoul, Australia Discuss Fruit Restrictions

SK2410003295 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 Oct 95 p 8

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Korea and Australia initiated two-day plant quarantine talks yesterday to discuss ways of scrapping mutual restrictions on fruit trade.

Negotiators from the National Plant Quarantine Service of Korea are meeting here with Australian quarantine authorities headed by Bill Roberts, said the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

Korea will ask Australia to import Korean fruits, notably pears. Australian side is expected to ask Korea to do the same for apples, grapes, oranges, mangoes and other fruits.

These Australian fruits are currently banned from Korea because of their association with insects which are not found on Korean soil.

Korea is running a huge deficit in its agricultural trade with Australia. Exports to Australia last year totaled $14 million, but imports were valued at $579 million.

Kim Yong-sam Says World Should Reform UN

SK2410022495 Seoul YONHAP in English 0149 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — President Kim Yong-sam said Monday [23 October] that the world should reform the United Nations as well as strengthen the UN function of preventive diplomacy.

Delivering a speech to the "Group of 16" meeting, he said, "The United Nations should expand its functions in the fields of economy, society and humanitarianism and renovate its bureaucratic organization."

Leaders of 16 countries including South Korea, Sweden, Canada, Brazil, Indonesia and other countries representing each continent participated in the Group of 16 summit meeting to discuss reforming the international organization.

President Kim emphasized that the political will of the leaders of UN member countries is important to strengthening the United Nations and that their voluntary contribution to the world body should be promoted.

"South Korea will also play its role for the development of the United Nations," Kim said.

The group of 16 adopted a statement, urging other member countries to join in a reform movement to strengthen the United Nations in its peacekeeping, finance and democratic structure.

The statement said among other things that the UN peacekeeping arm should be strengthened to respond more rapidly to outbreaks of violence, that the UN role in the multilateral economic system should be expanded to speed economic development and reduce economic inequality in the world and that the United Nations must become more efficient, effective and representative.

The Group of 16 meeting also included South Africa, Australia, Japan, the Ivory Coast, the Czech Republic, Egypt, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Mexico and the Netherlands.

Meanwhile, President Kim has held summit meetings with Singaporean Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, British Premier John Major and Chilean President Eduardo Frei and plans to meet with leaders from seven more countries including Vietnam, France, Romania, Spain, Tajikistan, the Marshall Islands and Israel during his stay here.

IOC President Samaranch Arrives To Attend Conference

SK2210104395 Seoul YONHAP in English 1005 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 22 (YONHAP)—Juan A. Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), said another Korean IOC member will be chosen during the IOC Executive Committee meeting slated in Atlanta next year.

"The IOC president cannot make the decision alone," Samaranch told the press during a press conference upon his arrival at Kimpo Airport in Seoul.

Samaranch, who is visiting Korea for the 20th time, is in Seoul to attend the 29th General Conference of the GAISF [General Association of International Sports Federations].

He said he is not sure whether North Korea would participate in the Atlanta Summer Olympics next year, since it has not sent its athletes to Hiroshima Asian Games, and to the world table tennis championship, although it participated in the International Military Soldiers Olympics this year.

IPSA Chairman Arrives To Prepare for Assembly

SK2410025595 Seoul YONHAP in English 0152 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — International Political Science Association (IPSA) Chairman Jean Leca arrived in Seoul Tuesday to discuss with South Korean officials and scholars the preparations for the 17th IPSA General Assembly slated for 1997 in the South Korean capital, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

While in Seoul until Sunday, Leca will meet with Education Minister Pak Yong-sik, Vice Foreign Minister Yi Si-yong and National Assembly speaker Hwang Nakchu, the spokesman added.

The Seoul IPSA meeting, the first of its kind in Asia is scheduled from Aug. 17-21, 1997, and is expected to attract over 2,000 political scientists from around the world.

South Korea joined the IPSA in 1960 while North Korea became a member of the association in 1988.

Kim Yong-sam Orders Probe of No's Alleged Fund

SK2310004695 Seoul YONHAP in English 0023 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New York, Oct. 22 (YONHAP) — President Kim Yong-sam, now on a visit to the United Nations, instructed Sunday that a thorough probe be made into the alleged secret fund case involving former President No Tae-u.

The chief executive instructed Prime Minister Yi Hongku to probe the case "thoroughly in order that no trace of suspicion may be left in a manner befitting the nature of the government and revealing the truth to the people."

President Kim issued the directive upon hearing a detailed report about the case from his Chief Secretary Han Sung-su at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, where he is staying here, after delivering a address at the special United Nations summit meeting commemorating the 50th anniversary of the world body.

The head of state ordered an investigation of "all and everyone involved in the case, irrespective of their position." Presidential Spokesman Yun Yo-chun said.

Kim reportedly received a brief report on the secret fund case from Han prior to making his address at the United Nations plenary session.

Yun said that President Kim had issued a similar directive to the prosecution right after Rep. Pak Kyetong of the opposition Democratic Party first brought up the issue last Thursday at a National Assembly session.

In a related move, Kim stressed at a reception hosted for the Korean community in New York Saturday, "I won't accept even a penny from anyone in the future."

NCNP on New 'Secret Fund' Account Tip-Off

SK2310073195 Seoul YONHAP in English 0709 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 23 (YONHAP) — The main opposition National Congress for New Politics (NCNP) said Monday it was tipped off that part of former President No Tae-u's secret fund which allegedly totals 400 billion won is stashed in a false-name account with the Sokkwan-tong branch of Korea First Bank in Seoul.

NCNP floor leader Sin Ki-ha told reporters that a citizen, speaking on condition of anonymity, telephoned him Sunday night and said that 31,900,051,200 won deposited Aug. 17, 1994, in an account opened at Korea First Bank's Sokkwan-tong branch under the name of Chang Kun-sang is possibly a portion of No's secret fund.

The caller identified the account's serial number as 227-20- 030002 and named Hyon Chang-sop, a former police officer, as the manager of the money, according to Sin.

But Korea First Bank denied the possibility that No's secret funds could be stashed in its Sokkwan-tong branch, saying that office is a B-class branch which normally holds total deposits amounting to 35 billion-40 billion won with small fluctuations within this range.

Premier Answers Lawmakers on Alleged Secret Fund

SK2310141595 Seoul YONHAP in English 1202 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 23 (YONHAP) — Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku said Monday the current probe into the secret funds of former President No Tae-u would include a look at how the huge money was raised.

"The government's basic stand is to thoroughly investigate any secret funds owned by any person by law," Yi said during a National Assembly interpellation session.

The premier said even the Suso and Yulgok cases could be re- investigated if new suspicions pop up.

Asked if the government were not willing to investigate all the 3-billion-won or larger bank deposits made under borrowed names, Yi said probes could be made step by step depending on the uncovery [as received] of tax evasion suspects upon the completion of the current review of such deposits by the tax administration.

In his testimony at the session, Deputy Prime Minister Hong Chae- hyong said the present prosecution probe would determine whether there exist special funds owned by a Chongwadae [presidential offices] officials fraternity, Chongu-hoe, at the Hyoja-tong branch of the Commerce Bank as alleged by a lawyer.

Hong, however, ruled out a probe of Sunkyong Group Chairman Choe Chong-hyon and Tongbang Oil and Flour Mills Co. Chairman Sin Myong- su. Some allegation goes that both, No Tae-u's in-laws, managed No's secret funds.

"It is difficult to investigate people without concrete suspicion against them," Hong said.

No Tae-u Said in 'Crisis' Over 'Secret Funds'

SK2410060895 Seoul YONHAP in English 0534 GMT 24 Oct 95

[Article by Kim Myong-chol]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — Now that the persisting rumors about a secret fund created by Former President No Tae-u, or his sixth republic, have been confirmed, the former head of state is now in a precarious position, like a man standing at the edge of a cliff.

Many politicians are watching the former president as he faces a personal crisis and are by no means at ease, regardless of whether they are part of the government party or the opposition.

The secret funds, which No's former chief bodyguard called "the funds for ruling," are like the detonator of a nuclear bomb, as these funds can alter the whole political situation of the country, depending on how the issue is handled in the weeks to come.

At the moment, No himself is remaining silent, as the prosecution confirmed the existence of a secret fund totaling 48.5 billion won (63 million U.S. dollars) in its two days of probing. And the public is angry with him.

Amid this silence, his former staff members are moving to do something to help their old boss overcome this enormous scandal.

On Sunday afternoon, four of his former staff members visited him at his Yonhui-tong residence. They were former Chief Presidential Secretary Chong Hae-chang, former Agency of National Security Planning Director So Tong-kwon, former Senior Presidential Secretary for Political Affairs Son Chu-hwan and former Senior Presidential Secretary for Petition and Information Kim Yu-hu. On Monday, former Chief Presidential Bodyguard Choe Sok-nip, former Senior Presidential Secretary for Administrative Affairs Kim Chae-yol and Rep. Yun Tae-kyun of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party all followed suit.

Regarding the prosecution's investigation, the former president is currently taking a wait-and-see stance. Chong Hae-chang, No's former chief of staff, said, "This isn't the time for us to say anything (about the investigation), is it? We'll take measures after the prosecution announces the investigation's results."

But the scope of measures he could likely take is quite limited, say observers, because the "funds for ruling" have been revealed.

In view of the course of action former President Chon Tu-hwan took after his retirement, No will make an apology to the people, donate his property to the state and go back to his hometown of Taegu for a quiet life of retirement, they speculated.

But whether the angry people will allow him to take such a relatively easy course of action after creating a nation-rocking scandal is questionable, they added.

Chon donated 13.3 billion won and one of his houses to the state and rusticated to a small buddhist temple in a remote mountain to live a somewhat exiled existence.

In fact, some political circles are raising the possibility of exiling him to a foreign country.

And for their part, political circles are more concerned about how he raised such an enormous fund and, especially about where he used the money, than about the course of action he will take.

He must have used an astronomical amount of the funds he collected while in office for election campaigns, the private political group named the Laurel Society, which he led, and for the creation of his favorable political environment, observers speculated.

In the first half of his rule opposition forces dominated the parliament and No must have used the money to blunt the edge of the opposition's anti-government offensive. After the two opposition parties were merged into his Democratic Liberal Party for domination of the party, he must have used the money to promote a cabinet system of government. And toward the end of his five-year tenure, he must have used the money for the security of his retired life.

His political investment for the security of his retired life must have covered not only the government party but also the opposition camp because of the uncertainty over the result of the presidential election in 1992, according to some observers.

This means that No's funds found their way to opposition parties as well as the government party during the 1992 presidential election.

So, if No revealed the complete truth about his secret funds, the repercussions would probably reach many politicians including those in the opposition camp.

When Rep. Pak Kye-tong of the opposition Democratic Party disclosed No's secret funds amounting to 30 billion won in his speech on the house floor, President Kim Tae-chung of the main opposition national congress for new politics quipped, "They might not belong to Mr. No."

For this remark, the Democratic Party and the United Liberal Democrats raised suspicions that Kim must have something to do with No's secret funds.

As for the course of action No should take, the former president's staff is reportedly split into doves and hawks. While the doves are against the course of action that may result in "the fall of many incumbent politicians," the hawks call for "a frontal breakthrough action" because the Kim Yong-sam government, handling the scandal, appears to have taken a stance of severing its relationship with No.

The hawks appear to be trying to make use of the political investment No made in both the government and opposition parties.

So if No is cornered because of his secret funds, he would be opening pandora's box as a last resort to take all those who used the funds down with him in his "political fall."

But observers see scant possibility that No may go to extremes in countering the prosecution's probe of his secret funds.

Chon tried at one point to resist the No government's plan to send him into exile in a remote mountain temple by openly threatening to reveal details of his massive monetary support provided for No's victory in the presidential election but finally gave up, observers note.

No Tae-u Considers Giving 'Secret Fund' to State

SK2410022395 Seoul YONHAP in English
0142 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — Former President No Tae-u is considering ways to contribute his "political fund" to the state treasury as soon as the prosecution announces the results of its investigation on it, informed sources said Tuesday.

The sources said the former president is also considering issuing a statement to the people to apologize for the trouble he has caused with the slush money scandal. Former presidential secretaries under No including Chong Hae-chang, his chief secretary, are currently working out ways to bring the scandal under control.

Meanwhile, a close aide to No said the ex-president may have to respond to questioning by the prosecution if the law-enforcement office decides to make a direct probe of No. "But it is more desirable for the prosecution to question him through letters or visit No's residence for verbal questioning."

More Accounts Sought in No's 'Secret Fund'

SK2410083795 Seoul YONHAP in English 0722 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — The prosecution, investigating into a "Secret Fund" scandal involving former President No Tae-u, began searching more than 10 Seoul based commercial banks Tuesday for accounts that may be related to the 48.5 billion won-large stash found at Shinhan Bank's Sosomun branch.

The prosecution was issued a search and seizure warrant last Saturday in order to trace the accounts from which the secret fund might have been sent to the accounts at Shinhan bank after being laundered.

According to the prosecution, a total of about 12.08 billion won was withdrawn on four different occasions, around the time of former president No's completion of his term of office, from the three Shinhan bank accounts which originally held 48.5 billion won.

Therefore, the prosecution is also focusing its investigation on where the money was spent.

A prosecutor said, "We have not yet been able to find any other accounts which have former President No's secret funds other than the Shinhan bank accounts. We think it may take as long as two weeks or even one month to understand from where the money that was deposited into the Shinhan bank accounts came, because the secret fund went through so complicated a money laundering process."

The prosecution will look into any bank account if they suspect it has a connection to the Shinhan bank accounts, which is expected to create a stir in the banking, financing and business world, he added.

Meanwhile, on Tuesday, the prosecution questioned retired colonel Yi Tae-chin, who was the accounting section chief of the Chongwadae [presidential offices] security service when No was in office, about details concerning the secret endowment.

Before he was questioned by the prosecution, he told reporters that he was only an "errand boy."

"I deposited or withdrew money, following the instructions of the former chief of the presidential security service, Yi Hyon-u. I do not know if there is any more secret money."

Premier Denies Knowledge of Kim Yong-sam Fund

SK2410084995 Seoul YONHAP in English 0729 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP) — Prime Minister Yi Hong-ku on Tuesday denied having any knowledge about allegations, made by opposition leader Kim Tae-chung over the weekend, that President Kim Yong-sam spent more than 1 trillion won (roughly 1,305 million U.S. dollars) in his 1992 presidential election campaign.

Answering an opposition lawmaker's inquiry at the National Assembly Plenary Session Tuesday, Yi said, "I know nothing about the allegations," adding, "funds used for the presidential election campaigns, I understand, were reported to the central election management commission by both the ruling and opposition parties and disposed of in due process."

Yi was replying to a demand made by Rep. Yi Kung-kyu of the splinter opposition United Liberal Democrats that the administration disclose the whole truth about the allegations involving the 1992 presidential election campaign funds used by President Kim.

As to questions, raised Monday by Rep. Che Chong-ku of the minor opposition Democratic Party and Rep. Yi Kyong-chae of the main opposition National Congress for New Politics, regarding whether President Kim holds a political fund, Yi said, "Never have I thought that the president keeps a political fund, nor have I heard of one."

Referring to the possibility that former President No Tae-u will be summoned for questioning regarding his secret political fund, as demanded by a number of opposition legislators, Yi replied, "The prosecution intends to determine the nature of the secret fund first and then to investigate ex-president No if necessary. But the method of investigation, I think, is a problem that will be carefully studied by the prosecution."

Yi did not rule out the possibility of prosecuting No, when he testified, "The administration intends to thoroughly probe into all illegal actions related to former president No's creation of a secret fund and will disclose the whole truth without leaving any suspicions... In the event illegal acts are uncovered, anyone found to have committed a crime will be dealt with in accordance with the law."

CDMA System Selected as Standard Technology

SK2310065695 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 Oct 95 p 3

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Information and Communication Ministry announced Friday that it chose the

CDMA (code division multi access) system as the nation's standard technology for the PCS (personal communication service), discarding the TDMA (time division multiple access) mode.

The CDMA system is being developed by the Korea Mobile Telecom [KMT] and Shinsegi Mobile Telecomm, cellular phone service providers, owned by such major business groups as Sunkyong, Kolon and POSCO (Pohang Iron and Steel Corporation), while the TDMA system is being pushed by state-run Korea Telecom.

The government has been pursuing the CDMA system as a national technology for next generation telecommunications service, but this led to controversies over the two PCS technologies as it delayed its final selection between the two.

KMT, Shinsegi and state-run research institute were developing the CDMA mode jointly with the American firm, Qualcomm.

The CDMA is deemed superior to TDMA in technological terms, but has yet to prove its success in its commercialization, while the TDMA is more widely opted for by European and many other countries.

The government plans to extend three business licenses for the PCS service by the end of next June.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister Comments on UN Attendance

BK2410091995 Kuala Lumpur THE STAR in English 24 Oct 95

[Unattributed report — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] WASHINGTON — Malaysia's presence at the United Nations' 50th birthday is merely to commemorate the historic occasion rather than to celebrate the institution's golden anniversary, Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said in New York on Sunday.

Abdullah said he would call for a "more democratic UN" and would emphasise the need to improve the institution.

Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, who has repeatedly talked about the failure of the UN, especially in its peacekeeping mission in the Balkans, has chosen to stay away from the UN bash, saying that there was nothing to celebrate.

Other no-shows include Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Italian President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Some 150 world leaders are attending the UN party — the largest gathering of kings, presidents and prime ministers ever assembled — which started on Sunday and will end today with a seven-page declaration of unity among 185 nations.

Despite the sharp criticisms levelled against the UN, "nobody has said that 50 years (of the UN) is enough," Abdullah said.

Many members seemed to be disappointed rather than proud of the nearly bankrupt UN during this golden anniversary year.

UN bashing has become louder in the last two years as the demands on the cash-strapped UN have expanded. The criticisms include:

— Failure in the Balkans;

— Waste in the Secretariat;
— Redundancy among UN agencies; and
— A Security Council where five nations unfairly hold sway with their veto powers.

The UN employs 10,000 people but has no troops, weapons or military equipment. In 1994, it had 17 peacekeeping missions that cost US$3.2 billion (RM [Malaysian ringgit] 8 billion).

Minister Urges Agenda of UN Reform

BK2410095295 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Malaysia has called for a comprehensive agenda for the reform of the United Nations to forge a new framework for the multilateralism for the 21st century. Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the agenda should encompass the principal organs of the UN, including the Security Council, the International Court of Justice, as well as the [word indistinct] work institutions, and the World Trade Organization.

Addressing the special commemorative meeting of the UN 50th anniversary in New York, the minister said if the world body is to proceed into the next millennium and remains relevant, restoring confidence in the UN and rebuilding its image must remain its priority task and responsibility. Datuk Abdullah said the appropriate institutional changes include removing the veto powers of the UN Security Council and expanding its membership. According to him, the UN has achieved much in the past, but confidence had waned in recent years in its ability to discharge its function as mandated by the UN Charter. He said Malaysia strongly believed that the UN should be the body to promote globalism and pluralism.

Mahathir Urges NAM To Understand Potential

BK2310105995 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 22 Oct 95 p 2

[Report by Ahmad A. Talib]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, in his closing remarks representing Asia at the Non-Aligned Movement's [NAM] Summit, said yesterday it was important for member countries to understand the movement's potential.

Having done that, they should then know what to make of it, Dr Mahathir said, adding that he noted member countries realised that "we must act and act together to resist marginalisation."

The prime minister said: "It is fitting that here, in Cartagena, Colombia, we reaffirm our faith in the NAM and its relevance as the major institution through which the interests of the developing countries can be protected and promoted.

"I believe that we have gone beyond the mere expression of the solidarity that we in the south have advocated but have not always practised.

"We have demonstrated that we can work together in a determined manner, that we are collectively prepared to address our failings and become a force to be reckoned with globally.

"In the years ahead, we will be tested over many issues, whether as a movement or as individual nations, and we will have to demonstrate our solidarity and our will to sustain our independence."

Consistent with his earlier statements, the prime minister said: "Our platform is the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and other international forums and our wish is to see these institutions reformed and restructured to reflect the needs of the global community of which we represent a significant majority.

"We recognise that there must be fundamental changes in the governance of these institutions to accommodate our voices. Of course, if there is to be credibility in our proposals, we ourselves must practise them transparently beforehand."

He added that the Summit had taken a firm position on disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament. This was done because of the movement's rising concern over the action of the nuclear states which continue to flaunt their weapons of mass destruction even as they manoeuvred to maintain their monopoly of them, he said.

He said that NAM's coordination with the Group of 77 had enabled the movement to further develop the premises of its economic position, particularly the need for development to remain at the top of the global agenda and not be sidelined by the rich countries seeking to advance their own agenda of social and environmental issues at the expense of development.

"We have emphasised the need for common action on international trade against rising protectionism in the industrialised world and its manifestations, especially the attempt to introduce new conditionalities in the form of environmental and labour standards.

"At the same time, we have shown that we are willing partners who are prepared to work with others for the good of all, for what we believe can only benefit all countries and lead to a more just, equitable and secure world," the prime minister said.

Mahathir Urges Change in NAM Decision Process

BK2410092495 Kuala Lumpur THE STAR in English 24 Oct 95

[Unattributed report — received via Internnet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuala Lumpur — Malaysia will try to change the decision-making process of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) into one that reflects the wish of the majority.

Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said the present process was based on consensus and "indirectly this means that every member has veto power although NAM itself is opposed to such veto power in the United Nations Security Council."

He said the Government may forward a proposal on this to ensure that there would be no "veto" for any member of NAM.

"If one country does not agree with the views of over 100 other countries, then the other countries cannot move," he said.

"We will try as far as possible to change the system of decision-making in NAM," he said.

He said the present system was not one which was written as a condition in NAM but merely a tradition.

Malaysia was reported to have proposed for a change in the decision-making process at the recent NAM foreign ministers meeting following the failure of the movement's senior officials meeting to reach an agreement on the admission of Bosnia-Herzegovina as a member, Costa Rica as an observer and Japan as a guest.

Editorial Reviews NAM Function After Summit

BK2310140095 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 22 Oct 95

[Editorial: "NAM To Continue To Exist and Function" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Translated Text] The week-long 11th Summit of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] in the historical resort of Cartagena, Colombia, ended with a stronger commitment by the leaders of member countries to the movement. It conveyed a message to the world that the movement will continue to be the mouthpiece for the Third World and for developing nations.

Without setting aside questions on whether NAM remains relevant and necessary in the post-Cold War era, no one can deny the fact that the movement still functions and remains necessary.

Today, NAM is among one of the largest world organizations with 113 members and it continues to increase. In terms of popularity, the movement remains attractive, and the movement accepted new members during the recent summit.

As Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed stated, the fact that countries such as Bosnia-Herzegovina and Costa Rica want to join proves that

NAM remains important. Though Japan is a developed nation, it has applied for 'guest' status because it sees NAM's potential of becoming an important world body. Russia, as a large power, holds observer status in NAM.

During the Jakarta summit three years ago, NAM was seeking new direction and approaches following the end of the Cold War. NAM was born in Bandung in 1955 as an alternative for countries that refused to join the Eastern or Western blocs.

Nevertheless, its function was questioned with the end of the Cold War. In this respect Indonesia should be commended for endeavoring to put NAM on a more logical track when it hosted the 10th summit in 1992.

Trying to seek new approaches, the chairman at the time, President Suharto, said the movement should emphasize an economic and developmental agenda if it wanted to remain relevant. The agenda continued to become a hot topic of discussion during the recent summit despite the absence of any concrete statement on the subject.

Most heads of government wanted to see NAM play an important role in economic and trade liberalization — a dividend derived from the end of the Cold War. Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao said global economic liberalization is a paradise [syurga] for developing nations, but none are entering into it.

NAM should remain relevant for several decades as long as there is unity among its members in adopting various political beliefs. Nevertheless, there is still much for NAM to study; 40 years after its birth NAM is no longer an organization emphasizing political issues. NAM must also tackle economic issues that need immediate attention.

Perhaps what was disappointing in the recent summit was the movement's failure to raise important global issues as more time was wasted on such trivial issues as the entry of new members into the movement.

Bosnia's application for membership was discussed at all levels of the summit — from senior officials to heads of government. It was an example of how valuable time was wasted. In the end Bosnia failed to become a member because Zimbabwe opposed its membership based on its relations with the former Yugoslavia.

It is not surprising that Bosnian Foreign Minister Mohamad Sacirbey found it difficult to conceal his disappointment with the African nation, and said Zimbabwe had adopted a decadent [lapuk] ideology. Sacirbey described Zimbabwe's stance as erroneous because as part of the former Yugoslavia, Bosnia helped Zimbabwe attain freedom and develop the country.

Malaysia desperately wants Bosnia to become a NAM member because that country needs the support of such movements as NAM under the present circumstances. Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who resolutely fought for Bosnia's entry into NAM, is concerned of the possibility that Bosnia may turn to Europe for support if NAM is unwilling to admit it.

NAM has talked much about democracy. In particular, NAM sees the need to reform the United Nations, which it regards as being dominated by only certain countries. It is not surprising that NAM continues to strive for the reform of the United Nations so that it can act more fairly to its members.

Unfortunately NAM does not practice democracy, particularly in decision making, although it is urging the United Nations to practice democracy. It is time for NAM's current consensus system to be replaced by a more democratic majority vote system.

The failure to admit Bosnia as a member was the consequence of the consensus system whereby one country can use its veto power to override the majority's decision.

In this connection, it was considered that Malaysia had taken a wise step when it proposed the consensus system be abolished and replaced by the majority system that is more democratic. Malaysia is aware that the consensus system is inappropriate for NAM with its large membership and that such a system creates difficulty for any decision taken. Such difficulty will make NAM fall far behind given the current situation.

The world wants NAM to act rapidly and its failure to make swift decisions only blemishes its credibility and people may possibly question the relevancy of its existence should it fail to solve an easy issue.

Given its large membership, NAM should be a formidable Third World movement with a discerning voice. The question of large membership is still inadequate because the commitment of its members to the movement was considered more important.

Only 52 heads of government attended the recent summit representing less than half of the movement's total membership. Based on the absence of known personalities among the heads of government, namely the South African leader and the Singapore leader (who was represented by its foreign minister) some observers noted waning interest in the movement.

The absence of some Latin American leaders was noted as well. It appeared that Colombia, as host and new leader of NAM, was unable to influence certain Latin American countries to commit to NAM.

We should accept the fact that some Latin American nations have their own agenda. It comes as no surprise that they reacted in a nonchalant manner about the NAM summit given their geographical proximity to the United States and also their economic dependence on the United States. Besides, such countries (even though they are unqualified) are presently seeking to become members of prestigious organizations such the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development.

Apart from this, the strained relations between Latin America and Africa, which has a large number of members in the NAM, is also another factor that attributes to its members being noncommittal.

Whatever the case may be, at least some heads of government — Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed; President Suharto; President Fidel Ramos; Indian Prime Minister Rao; Benazir Bhutto; and Yasir 'Arafat — graced the occasion in Cartagena.

Viewing the achievements of the recent summit, there is not much to be proud of, except the call by some members for a nuclear-free world and the abolition of nuclear tests. Malaysia was one who was vocal in stressing the issue at the recent summit.

Some delegates noted that as host of the recent summit, Colombia was somewhat incapable of handling the recent NAM summit. It was clear that the country was not well-versed with the NAM's institutional infrastructure and its obligations.

One delegate said: "Colombia still needs to learn more regarding the NAM, particularly from countries such as Malaysia and Indonesia. This is very important for Colombia due to its leadership position while NAM is currently undergoing orientation and reforms. As chairman, Colombia should have the capability to project new visions for the NAM."

What is important is that Malaysia play a bigger role and pose as a strong power for NAM by candidly exposing critical global issues in accordance with the necessity to make NAM perpetually more relevant. The choice of Dr. Mahathir to represent Asia at the NAM's closing ceremony was indeed an honor in recognition of Malaysia's contributions to the movement.

Singapore

Goh Meets With Other Leaders at UN Assembly

BK2310105195 Singapore Radio Corporation of Singapore in English 1000 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South Korea and Singapore agreed that the principle of comprehensiveness that all economic sectors be opened up will remain the framework on which the APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] process will be moving forward, but President Kim Yong-sam and Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong also agreed that the concern of individual countries on sensitive sectors should be given due consideration. Both leaders met in New York where they are attending the UN's 50th anniversary celebrations. Both also agreed that the meeting next month should take a flexible approach, focusing on the positive elements or what the APEC members have agreed on. That was just one of the meetings for Mr. Goh whose day began early with the opening of the special commemorative meeting at the UN.

He also met Thai Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha. They talked about the importance of the ASEAN summit to move the AFTA [ASEAN Free Trade Area] idea forward and that of the Asia-Europe meeting, both of which Bangkok will host.

At a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzaq Rabin, the two leaders agreed to look into how the private sectors of both countries can work together on economic projects in third countries in the region.

Inviting more Singaporeans to take part in his country's economy was Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo.

Cambodia

Rebel 'Minister' Comments on Government

BK2410070095 (Clandestine) Radio of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 23 Oct 95

[Interview with Mak Ben, "minister of rural areas, agriculture, and water conservancy of the Provisaional Government of National Union and National Salvation," by an unidentified correspondent on 23 October; place not given —recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent] Greetings, Your Excellency. What issues did the cabinet of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation [PGNUNS] discuss during its meeting this morning, 23 October?

[Mak] The cabinet examined the situation in the country, especially developments at the end of this rainy season.

Developments at the end of this rainy season most clearly confirm that the two-heads are experiencing an extremely grave situation in all fields and sectors. For the past two and a half years the alliance has tried hard to shore up the two-heads so that they can carry on communist Vietnam's war against the resistance forces of the Cambodian nation and people. However, not only have the two-heads failed to smash our national resistance forces, but they themselves have totally collapsed, decayed, and disintegrated.

Only one head remains now. There are two-heads no more, as both the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party and the paras [noncommunist resistance forces] have been annihilated. There remains only the head of communist Vietnam, and this head of communist Vietnam is collapsing, too. It is facing serious social and economic problems as Vietnamese immigrants continue to swamp the country and the people continue to lose their land, fields, and orchards and go hungry because of rice and food shortages.

What is the root cause of all of this? The root cause is communist Vietnam's war, a war that the two-heads are continuing to ignite at the behest of communist Vietnam and the alliance. This war, according to the people, constitutes a boomerang that is returning against the warmongers. Communist Vietnam, after coming here, has gone bankrupt and been defeated. UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], after coming here, also went bankrupt and was defeated. The alliance and the two-heads have also met the same fate. They have collapsed and decayed in all fields and sectors — military, political, economic, financial, social, and so on.

One wonders what the key factor is behind these successive defeats of the enemy. The key factor is the struggle of our nation and people and the PGNUNS. The peasants in the countryside are waging a struggle. So are the masses, journalists, students, and political figures in Phnom Penh and Cambodian brothers living abroad. This means that the entire Cambodian nation and people are waging a struggle to terminate communist Vietnam's war and achieve peace and national reconciliation.

[Correspondent] What is the situation of the people who have lost their lands, fields, and orchards and have gone hungry

[Mak] This problem is very serious. It is becoming critical because the war of communist Vietnam, the alliance, and the two-heads continues to wreak havoc on the country. The administration of communist Vietnam is robbing the people and skinning them alive. The two-heads have sold the nation, land, and forests again and again, by the millions of hectares, from under the feet of the people, depriving them of land on which to work for their livelihood. Moreover, over 4 million ethnic Vietnamese have swamped the country and more are on their way to rob us of our land.

Our people clearly see the situation in which the enemy is trying to impoverish the countryside by seizing land, fields, and orchards in a bid to starve the people to death. For this reason, the people have turned their struggle against the communist Vietnamese administration and the two-heads into a national struggle movement to get land and rice, thus causing widespread unrest and an earth-shattering rumble like a volcano on the verge of eruption. The people are rising up resolutely and struggling for their own survival.

[Correspondent] Recently, Hun Sen and the two-heads ordered some communist Vietnamese secret agents to throw grenades in a suppressive and bloody attack against the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party. Would you comment on this incident?

[Mak] The fascist and barbarous act of the two-heads clearly shows the dire situation the two-headed out-and-out lackeys of communist Vietnam are in. The two-heads are utterly isolated. They enjoy no support from the nation and people. They have on their side no-one except the fascist regime of communist Vietnam. According to the people, theirs is a country of thieves and robbers. Even His Excellency Nhoek Chulong, high counsellor of the king, at the ripe age of over 80 cannot endure them any more. So, he bluntly and publicly denounced the two-heads.

The two-heads have no social standing. Their situation is that of a desperate dog trapped in a well. They snap at anyone who dares to come near them. For this reason, the forces of our nation and people have joined hands to fight and terminate them and to end the war of communist Vietnam so that peace, happiness, national reconciliation, national harmony, and national unity can be restored.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Excellency. Here is another question: The economy of the two-heads having hit rock bottom, how is their riel currency faring?

[Mak] Yes, the economy and finances of the two-heads have hit rock bottom. The prices of goods have skyrocketed. Rice, fish, beef, fuel oil, and other utility goods have increased in price and are hard to find. There are no rice, oil, or utility goods. Shops and stores do not accept the puppets' bank notes. They accept only gold, dollars, or baht [Thai currency] because the two-heads' riel bank notes is as cheap as toilet paper or toy bank notes. They are worthless. There are 500 riel coins and 100,000 riel bills and they are all worthless.

That is the consequence of the 16-17 years of communist Vietnam's war of aggression, the war resulting from the complicity between the alliance and communist Vietnam to conjure up the two-heads and to kill the Cambodian nation and people. It is the consequence of the robbing and raping of our nation and people by the enemy, including communist Vietnam, the ethnic Vietnamese, the two-heads, and dishonest foreign traders. These elements have carried out a wholesale plunder of our nation and people, completely bleeding them white. Now their action has boomeranged against them. No longer can they rob the people at gun point with impunity. The people are rising up to wage a struggle against the two-heads, causing the latter to collapse and decay in all fields and sectors. The two-heads' toilet-paper money is a failure like all the other things in the other departments of the two-headed regime. The failure of the two-heads' toy money has thrown the two-headed regime rapidly toward bankruptcy. The two-heads cannot do anything to stop the slide. They have neither rice, merchandise, utility goods, nor fuel oil. Their main transportation routes, including railroads and highways, have also been severed by our National Army and people. Both transportation routes from Kompong Som and Poipet have been cut. This means that they are being strangled and are grasping for breath. Their untimely death is inevitable.

Indonesia

Suharto Addresses UN General Assembly

BK2410063895 Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian 1858 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] United Nations, New York, 23 Oct (ANTARA) — President Suharto has said that all UN member countries should give their full support to the United Nations because the organization has met their needs over the past 50 years.

"We will never be able to create a new international order that is more peaceful, just, and prosperous if this organization is allowed to remain in its current condition," Suharto said in an address to the UN General Assembly in New York on Monday local time.

Suharto said that all governments and peoples in the world turned to the United Nations to realize their hopes in this current complicated period.

"The fact that we need the United Nations is without question. Something that we always forget is that the United Nations also needs us. We welcome the UN's successes, but we always forget that a failure of this world body is also our failure," he said.

The head of state, accompanied by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Minister and State Secretary Murdiono, and Nugroho Wisnumurti, Indonesia's permanent representative to the United Nations, said that the United Nations may not be a perfect organization; however, the people feel obligated to it because of the organization's performance.

Citing an example, he said that the United Nations has played a decisive role in the decolonization process and the elimination of apartheid.

The United Nations has played a very significant role in limiting armed conflicts through various peacekeeping operations and by facilitating talks and negotiations.

"Even if this is true, we should improve the UN's capabilities through more active global and regional mechanisms so that peace can be maintained during the post-Cold War era," he said.

The creation of mechanisms would be beneficial for the creation, maintenance, and expansion of peace after conflicts are settled and would also be a diplomatic channel to prevent the outbreak of conflict.

The United Nations and its affiliated agencies have carried out several activities that have touched all aspects of the lives of the world's population; however, not all of these activities can continue because the United Nations now faces a serious financial crisis.

The United Nations has insisted on handling a growing number of complicated issues, while its treasury is in a pitiful condition. International society will not gain anything if this contradictory situation is allowed to continue.

The head of state also expressed Indonesia's hope for the reopening of the dialogue between developed and developing countries to expand the international economy.

"Since the 1960's, the United Nations has launched a series of international development strategies, but this is not sufficient to overcome the economic imbalance between the developed and developing countries. The economic disparity is becoming wider, and the developing countries are still being excluded from participation in world economic decisionmaking," Suharto said.

Suharto, Israel's Rabin Hold Meeting

BK2210085795 Jakarta ANTARA in Indonesian 0709 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] New York, 22 Oct (ANTARA) — President Suharto received Israeli Prime Minister Yitzaq Rabin in New York on Saturday evening. The Israeli prime minister briefed the president on the latest developments in the Middle East peace process, particularly relations between Israel and Palestine.

"The meeting took place following Yitzaq Rabin's sudden request," Minister and State Secretary Murdiono told reporters after the meeting between President Suharto and Prime Minister Rabin in New York on Saturday evening.

President Suharto was accompanied by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and Minister and State Secretary Murdiono, while Prime Minister Rabin was accompanied by several high-ranking Israeli officials at the meeting.

Security around Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York, where President Suharto is staying, was further tightened during the meeting between the Israeli prime minister and President Suharto.

Waldorf Astoria is the most prestigious hotel in New York. U.S. President Bill Clinton is also staying at the hotel situated on Lexington Avenue in downtown Manhattan during his visit to New York.

Murdiono said the Israeli prime minister's explanation followed one that he gave to President Suharto in Jakarta two years ago.

Two years ago, Prime Minister Rabin met President Suharto at the latter's residence on Cendana Street, Jakarta not long after the signing of the Declaration of Principles in Washington D.C., which gave limited autonomy to the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

President Suharto Addresses NAM Caucus

BK2410041395 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1903 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] United Nations, New York, 23 Oct (ANTARA) — President Suharto has said that the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] should be wise in the decisionmaking process and be responsible for drawing majority support from member countries.

"The UNSC's decisions should receive the support of the majority of member countries in an effort to create a more peaceful, more orderly, and humane world," Suharto said at a meeting of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) caucus in New York on Monday afternoon.

Indonesia was appointed in October to be the NAM caucus coordinator. Other members in the caucus are Botswana, Honduras, Nigeria, Rwanda, Oman, and Colombia, which is current NAM chairman.

Suharto said that the NAM caucus has played a positive role thus far in resolving several conflicts in various parts of the world.

The NAM caucus has initiated resolutions and proposed amendments on various issues of common interest that have been accepted by the UNSC.

The continued existence of the caucus is possible because its members have a common determination to contribute positively to the UNSC so that the council can implement its decisions; at the same time, NAM's objectives can be achieved.

"Even though it is difficult to measure the achievements of the caucus, we cannot deny that it has influenced the UNSC's decisionmaking on several issues. The significance of the role of the caucus cannot be measured solely based on the number of resolutions adopted and the number of statements issued," Suharto added.

Suharto was accompanied by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Minister and State Secretary Murdiono; and Nugroho Wisnumurti, Indonesia's permanent representative to the United Nations.

Speaking on efforts to increase the role of the caucus in the United Nations, Suharto said this was the result of the NAM summit in Jakarta in 1992.

The NAM has produced valuable directives on several urgent issues that have become the international community's common focus. "The contributions of the caucus to the United Nations have demonstrated that there is going to be a fair and peaceful settlement of all conflicts through the participation of all UN member countries from all parts of the world.

Laos

Security Meeting Held With Thai Province

BK2010152895 Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vientiane, October 19 (KPL) — The Lao north-western Sayaboury Province and Thailand's Phayao Province on October 17 held their first meeting on border security in Sayaboury.

The meeting reviewed the relationship between the two provinces, particularly the security along the common border between Sayaboury and Phayao, and the exchange of visits by peoples of the two provinces. The discussion also touched upon efforts to turn the common border between the two provinces into the one of peace and friendship and the ways to educate both peoples to have better understand and observe the laws of the two countries.

Heading the Lao delegation to the meeting was Mr. Bounheuang Douangphachan, governor of Sayaboury Province and chairman of the Lao-Thai Border Security Committee of Sayaboury, and the Thai delegation was led by Mr. Wichan Chaiyanan, governor of Nan Province, northern Thailand, and chairman of the Thai-Lao Border Security Committee of Phayao Province.

The first meeting of the border security committee of Sayaboury and Phayao was in implementation of the memoranda on border security cooperation between Laos and Thailand signed in Vientiane and Bangkok.

Party Control Board Leaves for DPRK Visit

BK2110133495 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vientiane, October 20 (KPL) — A delegation of the Control Commission of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee (LPRP CC) led by Mr. Maichantan Sengmani, LPRP CC member and chief of the Corruption Prevention and Combat Commission, yesterday left here for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on its one-week long cordial visit.

While in the DPRK, the Lao delegation will point out the party- state policy on economic, cultural, social, defence renovation and learn DPRK's experience in socio-economic development. The Lao delegation will also study experience in party-state inspection, organisation structure, inspection methods, protection of party members and cadres, experience in combatting against negative phenomena of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Philippines

Ramos Holds Talks With Heads of State

BK2410024495 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer Veronica Baluyot] President Ramos formally thanked United Arab Emirates [UAE] officials over the Sarah Balabagan case during his meeting with the UAE prince, who is also foreign minister of the country. It can be recalled that the UAE president himself asked the Al-Baloushi family to forgive Balabagan.

[Ramos, in English fading into Tagalog report] In the way we interpret the purposes and priorities of ....

[Baluyot] President Ramos also met with Chinese leader Jiang Zemin, where resolution of the hot Spratlys issues was the highlight of their talks.

Peace talks between Muslims and the government was the main issue at the president's meeting with Bangladeshi Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and Indonesian President Suharto.

Human Resource Emphasis in Energy Plan Sought

BK2410091895 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 20 Oct 95 p 3

[Report by Paul N. Villegas]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Philippines wants to incorporate human resources empowerment in the energy plans of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said APEC's energy development program for the region should focus on the "quality of people's lives both as subjects and objects of energy systems" rather than concentrating on the amount of energy the region should produce and consume.

During the recently concluded workshop of APEC's energy working group in Hawaii, the DFA lauded the initiatives of two Filipinos — Larry Asera and Alberto Dalusung III — for incorporating human resources development in their energy projects in the country.

Primcon, the Vallejo-based firm of Mr. Asera, of which he is the chairman and managing director, has been actively pursuing electrification programs in the country.

"Primcon pursues social goals in assisting the rural population through electrification and provides joint venture opportunities, as well as technical and financial assistance programs," the DFA said.

On the other hand, Mr. Dalusung's Winrock International-REPSO Philippines is eyeing the potentials of renewable energy applications to Philippine agriculture, particularly in water pumping, irrigation, livestock raising, crop drying, cold storage, agro-processing, and aquaculture.

Through its nonprofit global network called Renewable Energy Project Support Office (REPSO), Winrock undertakes a number of programs to promote economically attractive and environmentally sound renewable energy applications.

"REPSO offers a variety of services to meet the needs of project developers, including trade promotion and technology transfer," the DFA said.

Meanwhile, the APEC Technology Cooperation working group has approved the country's energy project proposal during the recently concluded experts' meeting on technology cooperation in Hawaii.

The project entitled "Assessment and Development of Technology Cooperation Needs, Skills and Capabilities for Sustaining Area-based New and Renewable Energy Projects" will receive $25,000 from the APEC technical cooperation working group. It was one of the three projects approved by the working group for 1996.

The DFA said the experts' meeting agreed to study a project that would involve selected "sustainable cities" among APEC's 18 member countries to serve as models of economic growth, energy security, and environmental protection.

Japan Gives $16.5 Million for Food Production

BK2010021495 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 16 Oct 95 p 2

[Report by Paul N. Villegas]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Japanese Government has approved a 1.65 billion yen (approx. [approximately] $16.5 million or P [pesos] 429 million) grant to the Philippine Government for increased food production in the country under the 1995 RP [Republic of the Philippines]-Japan Increased Food Production Program (IFPP).

Foreign Affairs Secretary Domingo Siazon and Japanese Ambassador Yoshifumi Matsuda signed and exchanged notes last Friday at the Department of Foreign Affairs office for the 19th tranche of the program, also known as the KR-2 program.

The IFPP, which was established in 1977, aims to support efforts in the agricultural sector to increase the productivity and incomes of small farming and fishing families.

"The Philippine Government is most grateful for the Japanese government's continuing support for the development of the agricultural sector," Mr. Siazon said during the signing ceremony.

"Taking into consideration our common effort to steadily enhance the effectiveness of our bilateral ODA (official development assistance) program, I wish to provide assurances that the Philippine Government will continue to institute measures to improve the management of the program. The Philippines attaches great importance to its efforts to increase food production and farm incomes in the rural areas," he added.

Tokyo's contributions to the program are in the form of farm- related inputs such as fertilizers, agricultural chemicals, and agricultural machinery.

Monetary proceeds from the sale of the commodity aid have been utilized to fund, among other things: income-generating projects; research and development; institutional development such as farmers' centers and cooperatives; support services; and extension activities (such as vehicle loans) that cut across all sectors of agriculture, including livestock and fisheries projects.

Thailand

Banhan Comments on Clinton Speech on Drugs

BK2410031895 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Public Relations Department correspondent Chintana Kaeochumphot reports that Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha briefed a news conference on U.S. President Bill Clinton's speech calling for a crackdown on international terrorism, money laundering, drug trafficking, organized crime, and arms smuggling.

Regarding a news report following the U.S. President's speech that the United States will impose sanctions on countries—including Thailand—suspected of involvement in drug trafficking, the prime minister said that he had not heard the news. He said that Thailand has stepped up drug suppression. All countries respect each other's rights on the basis of their independence. Thailand will not support any actions considered wrong. Anyone has the right to say whatever he wants. We should not be worried, however, since Thailand has had no involvement in what it has been accused of, and Thailand does not support or promote drug trafficking.

The prime minister said that drug trafficking can take place only through the actions of two sides. Drug trafficking will not take place if there are no sellers and buyers. It will also not take place if there is only a seller without a buyer or vice versa. Suppressions have to be carried out in both countries. Suppression efforts will fail if they are carried out by only one side. The government has ordered suppressions of drug trafficking. [passage omitted on the prime minister's itinerary]

Deputy Prime Minister Views Clinton Speech

BK2410083295 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Deputy Prime Minister Air Chief Marshal Sombun Rahong, who is now acting prime minister, granted an interview to reporters at the Royal Plaza this morning about a U.S. statement in which Thailand was listed as one of 12 countries with involvement in drug trafficking. Air Chief Marshal Sombun said Thailand is only a transit point and not the source of production. He said he could not name countries that are the sources of production as that would hamper relations.

[Begin recording] [Sombun] We have been doing our best in suppression. So, if they have evidence, or if they know the names of any people involved in the trade or any kinds of operations, they can check with us. In fact, we have been cooperating with the United States in drug suppression. The agency under Police General Chaowalit [Yotmani] has been in cooperation with the United States. On this matter, cooperation is being made by all countries in the world. There are laws pertaining to that.

[Unidentified reporter] Was it because of some involvement by our politicians or national figures that made the United States put Thailand on the list?

[Sombun] I must apologize to you; I am not in charge of drug suppression, and I have no information for you. You should ask Police Gen Chaowalit.

[Reporter] There is another issue that should be made clear, that is, the information given to the foreign minister by the United States. Is there any chance of us finding out about it?

[Sombun] I have also wanted to know myself so that further steps can be taken if there is any evidence. But I have said already that there was no evidence; there was only conversation. [end recording]

Foreign Minister M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi added that, in the speech by U.S. President Bill Clinton, there was no mention of imposing sanctions on Thailand if Thailand made no efforts to solve the problem of narcotics trafficking. The list indicates countries that are transit points, and not individuals. Concerning money laundering, he said Thailand already has a system for screening, but it is difficult to control it because there are several channels for the inflow of money.

Spokesman Comments on U.S. Sanctions List

BK2410052195 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Oct 95 pp 1,3

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] [passage omitted] Government spokesman Somsak Pritsananthakun said the US might be acting on wrong information if it placed Thailand on the list of potential targets for sanctions.

The Government of Banhan Sinlapa-acha had placed great importance on drug trafficking suppression, he said.

"The Thai cabinet hears drug suppression reports at every one of its weekly meetings," Mr. Somsak claimed.

Thailand would be damaged by such a report, he said, and the Foreign Ministry will have to take diplomatic initiatives to arrive at an understanding with the US and the world community on this issue.

Asked if the public hearings committee, chaired by Thanat Khoman who is attending the UN meeting, would further complicate relationships with the US on the drug issue, Mr. Somsak said America championed human rights and must give Thailand and the Thai people justice since its allegations are without proof or evidence.

Because of this, the Government had to protect the honour of Thais and the nation by setting up the panel to look into the allegations against Chat Thai figures Narong Wongwan and Watthana Atsawahem.

"We didn't name the two politicians to the cabinet. If our investigation shows that they are in the wrong, there will be legal action. But if we find they are not wrong, then they are not wrong," Mr. Somsak said. [passage omitted]

Banhan, Clinton Discuss Double Taxation Issue

BK2410045595 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Thailand and the United States have agreed to resolve problems related to a double taxation avoidance treaty, which has been delayed for over 30 years, to promote bilateral economic and investment cooperation. Prime Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha briefed a news conference on the morning of 23 October in New York. He said that he had attended a party hosted by the U.S. President and his wife. He spoke with President Bill Clinton for about five minutes on the occasion.

[Begin Banhan recording] We spoke for about five minutes. The President said that he will meet us again at the APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation] meeting. I told him that relations between Thailand and the United States have existed a long time. Understanding between the two countries has been good; however, the double taxation avoidance treaty has been a longstanding problem.

Several parties, such as the Thai and U.S. private sectors, have called for the conclusion of such a treaty. Businessmen must pay taxes in both countries under double taxation. Some aspects of the issue still need to be resolved. I think that we should be able to tackle the issue. I have instructed the finance minister, who is accompanying me on this trip, to expedite the issue. It would be good if an agreement on the issue can be reached during my and the U.S. President's tenure. The U.S. presidential election will be held next year.

The talks lasted for about five minutes. [end recording]

Chawalit Discusses Cooperation With PRC Leaders

BK2410092695 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Public Relations Department's correspondent has reported on the visit to the

PRC by General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, deputy prime minister and defense minister, and his delegation. During the visit, Gen. Chawalit discussed with senior Chinese leaders cooperation between Thailand and China in military, political, economic, and social affairs.

Gen. Chawalit told reporters that he and the Chinese leaders discussed the regional situation. China praised Thailand for showing sincerity in its relations with neighboring countries and its desire to see peace. In particular, the visits to Burma and Cambodia by the deputy prime minister have created better understanding with those countries.

Moreover, the two sides also discussed the proposed cooperation in infrastructure in Cambodia such as the construction of a rail track to improve the quality of the Cambodian people's life. The issue will be raised with other ASEAN countries to promote a permanent peace in Cambodia.

Gen. Chawalit also informed the Chinese side that Thailand will use most of its military strength for national development, which is also in line with China's policy.

Regarding cooperation between Thailand and China, Gen. Chawalit said that the two sides discussed road and rail links, which represent an important task for facilitating contacts between countries in this region.

Regarding military issues, the two sides discussed the development of the armed forces, the development of weaponry technology and communications, and the turning of the armed forces into an appropriate and efficient force that can also be used in national development.

Chawalit Claims Ties With Indochina 'Paying Off'

BK2410071995 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 24 Oct 95 p 3

[Unattributed report]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The defence minister claims his bid to make this country a regional leader through better relations with Indochina is paying off.

Interviewed by the BANGKOK POST before leaving for China Chawalit Yongchaiyut claimed to have lived up to the pledge he made as New Aspiration leader.

He promised the electorate he would strengthen peaceful relationships with neighbouring countries.

Chawalit, also Deputy Prime Minister, has paid visits to Burma and Cambodia during the three months the Government has been in office.

He claimed he had firm objectives in making these visits.

The trip to Burma was to promote understanding, because bilateral relations had been problematic over the past two years.

The visit was successful in achieving that aim, he claimed.

An advisory team had been dispatched to Rangoon after his visit. Burmese deputy prime minister Maung Maung Khin was due to visit Thailand next month.

In December Prime Minister Than Shwe, a leading figure in the junta, would attend the ASEAN summit in Bangkok.

In a few days' time a fact-finding team led by deputy army chief Chettha Thanacharo would go to Burma, after which construction of the Thai-Burma Friendship Bridge was expected to be resumed.

Chawalit said he expected to be able to persuade the Burmese to open the border checkpoint at Mae Sai.

There would be talks on fisheries disputes, and a delegation led by Deputy Agriculture Minister Monthon Kraiwatnuson would travel to Burma for this purpose soon.

He felt some people might not understand his style of leadership, while others might think problems were capable of instant resolution, he said.

But after more than two years of clashes between the two countries, he felt he had racked up solid achievements.

Chawalit said he went to Cambodia recently to take part in laying guidelines for the two countries to follow over border problems.

In the forthcoming dry season, the situation across the border could worsen, he said.

There was a need for common guidelines so that Thailand did not have to pick up the pieces after famine, floods high goods prices and other problems.

One of the topics Chawalit will raise with China's military leaders is the Khmer Rouge, and he has met officials concerned with Cambodia.

Chawalit returns from China on Thursday and is scheduled to visit Laos shortly.

The Laotian government is building a stupa to hold the ashes of the late Prince Souphanouvong and arrangements for his visit will be finalised once the stupa is finished.

Chawalit said he was a distant relative of the late prince.

During the Cambodian problem period, Thailand housed Khmer refugees and displaced persons in camps along the border.

These people were the "population base" of the Cambodian government in exile which Thailand supported.

Suwitthaya said the Thai government did not want to put Burma before a regional or international forum because doing so would open the way for outside powers to dictate the country's direction.

Apart from having a special rapporteur nominated by the UN Human Rights Commission observe the situation in Burma since 1992, the UN General Assembly has passed resolutions about problems in Burma.

However, this kind of pressure is far from effective. The resolutions steer clear of internal affairs which are the root cause of human rights violations.

Since the assembly's resolutions were non-binding, UN members need not abide by them, unlike those issued by the Security Council, the director of the UN Information Centre in Thailand Khaled Khali, said.

"Once the decision is made and the resolution is passed by the General Assembly, it's up to the member states whether to implement it," he said.

"What's happening in Myanmar (Burma) is internal."

But the UN could express concern, unlike in the case of Cambodia which became internationalised after the Vietnamese invasion and Cambodia's calls for help from the organisation, he said.

Thailand, on the other hand, has to look after its own interests.

Surin said that every year Foreign Ministry officials worked hard to tone down the assembly's resolutions on Burma, which were initiated by Scandinavian countries, the United States and Australia.

"Instead of 'condemn' we sometimes push for 'concern' in the resolution to show our sincerity toward the Burmese government and to help our communications with it," he said.

Suwitthaya said disputes, including those involving the Khmer Rouge, which pulled out of the Paris peace pact, and fighting in Burma, could be resolved within the countries concerned or under the newly established regional mechanism.

ASEAN last year formed a regional forum involving 18 countries in the Asia-Pacific region and the European Union to find ways to guarantee security and stability in the region.

Surin said the world has moved away from armed conflict to trade wars, exploitation of natural resources and information competitiveness. The UN should think beyond the "traditional" agenda and focus on these new issues.

"The image, prestige and legitimacy of the UN still exist in the region and so there is a need for the UN to foster closer cooperation," he said.

Contrary Stands on Burma, Cambodia Noted

BK2410085395 Bangkok BANGKOK POST (INSIDE INDOCHINA Supplement) in English 24 Oct 95 p 2

[Report by Nutsara Sawatsawang: "Soft-Peddling on the Burma Issue"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] When it comes to Burmese issues, Thailand stays away from the United Nations, a mechanism it used successfully to internationalise the Cambodian problem.

ASEAN rallied behind Thailand in keeping Cambodia on the world agenda for 13 years from the time of the Vietnamese invasion in late December 1978 through to the October 1991 Paris peace agreements.

"The Southeast Asian region, especially Cambodia, is a success story of the United Nations," said former deputy foreign minister Surin Phitsuwan, attributing the accomplishment to the UN's recognition of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Every year, ASEAN tabled and lobbied support for resolutions in the UN General Assembly condemning the Vietnamese invasion and demanding its withdrawal from Cambodia.

From the mid 1980s, Indonesia helped reinforce this effort by hosting a series of peace talks known as the Jakarta Informal Meeting. Later, peace initiatives from France, Australia and five permanent members of the UN Security Council culminated in the Paris peace agreements.

The Vietnamese invasion posed a direct threat to Thailand and, by implications, its neighbours in ASEAN — then Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, the Philippines and Brunei. Vietnam joined ASEAN in July this year.

At its peak, Vietnam maintained 180,000 troops in Cambodia. UN agencies and international non-government organisations spearheaded assistance for more than 350,000 refugees who flooded across the border and were kept in camps in Thailand.

Vietnam withdrew its troops from Cambodia in 1989 and the United Nations High Commissioner for

Refugees repatriated the Cambodians in time for that country's elections in May 1993.

Foreign Minister M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi noted that the UN was instrumental in bringing peace to Cambodia by persuading all rival factions to sign the peace pact.

Under the agreement, the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia — which included civilians and peacekeepers — saw the country through to general elections and left after a coalition government was in place.

But the success in Cambodia has not inspired Thailand to make effective use of the UN to solve problems of its western neighbour.

Some observers have advocated that Burma should be taken up as a regional or even international issue, after nearly half a century of civil war in the country between the military government and ethnic groups.

The strife has spawned human rights violations, forced labour and displaced persons along the Thai-Burmese border.

The ethnic rebels, including the Mons, Karens and Shans have called for autonomy since the end of the British colonial rule in 1947.

Pro-democracy forces inside and outside the country also demand democracy. The Burmese military rulers have remained indifferent.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], the ruling junta, came to power in 1988, held elections in 1990 but refused to hand over power to the winners — the National League for Democracy [NLD].

It claims a new government will be formed after the so-called national convention completes drafting the constitution.

Representatives handpicked by the junta have gathered for the task since early 1993 and there is no end in sight for their work.

Thailand will not raise the Burmese issue before the UN for a variety of reasons. First, it regards the issue as strictly an internal affair, among various forces with their own vested interests.

The Burma issue lacks the international dimension of the Cambodian problem — there is no foreign occupation.

"It's an ethnic conflict, not an ideological one, in which parties are unable to reconcile by political means," Surin said.

Different rebel groups followed divided lines in their political struggles against Rangoon, he said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Suwitthaya Simatsakun agrees, saying the Burmese will have to settle their own problems.

"SLORC, Aung San Suu Kyi or others, they are all Burmese. We (Thailand) cannot side with any particular party," he said.

Suu Kyi was recently reinstated as secretary-general of the NLD after the junta released her from six years' house arrest without trial or charges.

M.R. Kasemsamoson, who served as Thai Ambassador to the US during the Cold War, said that superpowers were involved in Cambodia, but there were none in Burma's case.

He said that China and the United States, while having different goals, used the same approach by exerting influence as permanent members of the UN Security Council to push for their interests in Cambodia.

China supported the Khmer Rouge which was ousted by the Vietnamese army in late 1978, while the US maintained its position in the bi-polar world against the former Soviet Union which supported Vietnam.

As for the Karens who fled persecution in their homeland and took refuge in Thailand, the Thai government has denied access to UN agencies to monitor the situation, claiming that the Karens are "displaced persons" and "economic migrants", not political refugees.

Board of Trade Promotes Investment Abroad

BK2410071495 Bangkok THE NATION in English 24 Oct 95 p B1

[Report by Wichit Chaitrong]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thai companies must aggressively pursue foreign investment initiatives, particularly in ASEAN, China and Indochina, according to Prayun Thaloengsi, executive director of the Board of Trade of Thailand.

Thailand should invest in these countries because they possess an abundance of natural resources and large markets.

The Thai private sector has repeatedly asked the Board of Investment (BoI) to promote Thai foreign investment.

Thai investment abroad last year totalled [baht] Bt10.2 billion, a 43 per cent jump over the previous year, he said.

Economic groups such as the European Union and North America Free Trade Agreement, which discriminate outside members, have also forced Thai investors seek new investment alternatives, Prayun said.

In addition to investment in ASEAN, Hong Kong and China, Thais are involved in the agro-industry in Indonesia, the finance sector in Singapore and the service sector in the Philippines and the United States.

Thai investment in China has doubled over the past few years, he noted.

This year, Thai investors also invested in power generating and retail businesses in India, Burma, Vietnam, China and the Philippines.

Thailand is the 20th largest exporter in the world. However, the country runs both trade and current account deficits because of its reliance on imported heavy machinery and raw materials.

Thailand, therefore, is very sensitive to fluctuations in price and quality of the products it imports, he said.

Moreover, high domestic interest rates and labour costs have pushed up production costs in the shoe, leather and garments industries.

On economic cooperation with the other countries, Thailand must play a major role in the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) and Asia- Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, because the Thai economy is heavily dependent on world trade and investment.

APEC will be an avenue for Thailand to increase its international trade clout, reducing reliance on bilateral trade, Prayun noted.

Moreover, APEC will also facilitate technology transfer and human resource development projects between developed and developing members, he added.

Vietnam

Le Duc Anh Addresses UN General Assembly

BK2410092895 Hanoi VNA in English
0536 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 23. — President Le Duc Anh joined more than 160 other heads of state or government and head delegates from all member countries in celebration of the 50th founding anniversary of the United Nations at its headquarters in New York on October 22 morning.

This was the first time a Vietnamese head of state attended the UN celebrations since it became a full member of this largest world organization in 1977.

On Oct. 23, President Le Duc Anh delivered a speech at the special commemorative meeting. Mr Anh said:

'It is my particular pleasure, on behalf of the state and people of Vietnam to attend the special commemorative meeting for the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

'Over the past 50 years the United Nations has steadily grown. Its growth has been closely linked with the struggle of peoples for the right to self-determination and for the fundamental purposes and principles enshrined in the United Nations charter, namely peace and international security, development and prosperity for all nations, freedom and equality among nations, whether large or small, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of states and peaceful settlement of disputes. These purposes and principles of the United Nations constitute common values of the whole mankind, for which all nations and peoples hold the same responsibility to preserve and uphold. Today when international exchanges and interactions are taking place with an ever-growing intensity, scope and complexity, adherence to such fundamental purposes and principles assume all the more special importance.

'Paradoxically, just when mankind has acquired the technology to reduce the distance between the earth and other celestial bodies in the universe, the gap between the rich and the poor has alarmingly widened. With every passing day, we are still witness to the human tragedy of countless innocent people who are victims of wars, conflicts, economic embargoes and epidemics. As a nation that experienced the horrible famine of 1945 and several decades of ravages from war and embargo, the Vietnamese people know all too well the sorrow and pain of war as well as the harshness of economic embargo and deprivation of poverty. We therefore feel in deep empathy with the sufferings and losses of other peoples and other citizens. From this solemn rostrum, let me join my own voice to the earnest call for the international community to do their utmost for the enjoyment by all individuals and nations in the world of their fundamental rights to a life and peace, equality and development and to economic and social intercourse among states and peoples.

'The urgent tasks before us are to eradicate hunger and alleviate poverty and create jobs to uphold women's right to equality and implement children's right to care and protection to ensure respect for fundamental human rights alongside with respect for the sovereignty, security and development of every nation. We also need to substantially cut down military expenditures, eliminate weapons of mass destruction, decrease trade in arms and move towards the termination of arms production and trade, reduce and write off the debt of poor countries, and increase investments for development and protection of the environment.

'What has been achieved by the United Nations in the fields of maintenance of international peace and security, assistance to decolonization, promotion of friendly relations and development co-operation among nations, promotion of environmental, cultural, educational, and humanitarian activities over the last 50 years is indeed remarkable. However, the shortcomings of our organization are by no means small. In order to successfully discharge its mission, the United Nations itself should be revitalized. First and foremost, it should be turned into a democratic organization in which relations among member states as well as between the United Nations and each member state shall be based on democracy and equality. The general assembly must truly be the highest authority of the United Nations, responsible before the whole mankind for all questions related to international peace and security, co-operation for development and other global issues. United Nations affiliated agencies also need renovating and should be made to operate more effectively with greater dynamism and transparency within the framework of the United Nations charter and general assembly resolutions.

'It is a felicitous coincidence that the year 1995 is also the year when we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, today the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Over the last 50 years, the Vietnamese people have brought to bear their tradition of unity, self-reliance and resilience, enduring untold sufferings and overcoming countless hardships and sacrifices to defend the independence of their motherland, gradually building for themselves a life of well-being, freedom, and happiness. We are committed to the implementation of an independent, self-possessed and open foreign policy guided by the motto 'Vietnam wishes to befriend all countries in the international community, and strives for peace, independence and development'. We have achieved encouraging results in this regard.

'On this occasion, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to all countries and international organizations, to his excellency Mr. Butrus-Butrus Ghali and United Nations specialized agencies for their sympathy and precious assistance to Vietnam. Vietnam is committed to doing its utmost to make a worthy contribution to the lofty cause of the United Nations for peace, development, equality and justice, for a finer world as expressed in the call of this special commemoration: 'we, the peoples of the United Nations, united for a better world'. A world without hatred or violence but with love and happiness.'

Downing of U.S. Aircraft in 1966 Recalled

BK2410062895 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 23 Oct 95

[Article by Huy Suu]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted introducing the contributions of the armed forces and people of Dong Trieu District, Quang Ninh Province, during the wars of resistance against France and the United States]. Dong Trieu was among the hardest-hit targets, particularly when the U.S. imperialists escalated the war of destruction against the north. Hundreds of enemy aircraft bombed and strafed economic establishments, ammunition depots, communications networks, and residential areas, inflicting heavy losses in life and property.

Acting in keeping with the slogan "Exterminate the enemy when he comes" and by upholding the determination to defeat the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the armed forces and people of Dong Trieu dug many combat trenches, fought courageously, and downed six U.S. aircraft. On 15 August 1966, the militiamen of Xuan Son Village in Quang Ninh Province, using infantry weapons, shot down the 100th U.S. aircraft. [passage omitted on postwar contributions in national construction and defense of the local armed forces and people]

Education, Training Accord Signed With Russia

BK2310140995 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A Vietnamese delegation from the Education and Training Ministry visited Russia. The delegation signed a cooperation agreement on education and training for 1996 until the year 2000 with Russia.

The Vietnamese delegation was led by Vice Minister of Education and Training Vu Ngoc Thai.

National Assembly Session Continues Proceedings

23 Oct Proceedings Reported

BK2310123995 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Today, 23 October, the National Assembly conducted its work at the conference hall to pass various articles, chapters, and paragraphs of the draft civil code. National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu chaired the session.

Today, the National Assembly carefully reviewed every word and phrase of the draft. The National Assembly also heard additional explanations on each article by Minister of Justice Nguyen Dinh Loc. The National Assembly voted by a majority to pass the first part of the civil code bill, including 8 chapters, 10 paragraphs, and 170 articles.

Tomorrow, 24 October, the National Assembly will continue its work at the conference hall to pass the second and any subsequent parts of the civil code bill.

Further on 23 Oct Proceedings

BK2310152495 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Today, under the direction of National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu, the National Assembly continued its work in the conference hall in preparation for voting on the civil code bill. Minister of Justice Nguyen Dinh Loc, on behalf of the working group for study and adjustment of the civil code bill, suggested adopting and adjusting the bill according to opinions offered by the National Assembly deputies.

Fifty National Assembly deputies expressed their opinions. They suggested that the National Assembly change some contents, phrases, and words of the civil code bill in the first part on general stipulations, and in some chapters of the second part dealing with property and ownership.

The National Assembly voted to pass the first part on general stipulations, including Chapter I on Basic Principles, Chapter II on Individuals, Chapter III on Legal Entity, Chapter IV on Households and Cooperative Groups, Chapter V on Civilian Relations, Chapter VI on Representatives, Chapter VII on Time Limit, and Chapter VIII on Time Effect.

Tomorrow, the National Assembly will continue its work in the conference hall.

24 Oct Morning Assembly Proceedings

BK2410080495 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 24 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Today is the 19th working day of the Ninth National Assembly's eighth session. The National Assembly deputies worked in the conference to continue adopting the Civil Code part by part. This was the second day the National Assembly devoted time to adopting this important law.

In the morning, the deputies focused their views on part 2 of the Civil Code, covering the chapters on general provisions, kinds of property, contents of ownership right, forms of ownership, establishment and cancellation of ownership right, ownership right protection, and other decisions relating to ownership right. More than 30 deputies contributed their views to part 2 of this law. By the end of this morning's session, a number of deputies had contributed their views to part 3, which covered civilian duties and civilian contracts.

This afternoon, the National Assembly will continue working in the conference hall to adopt the Civil Code part by part.

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